

DID PEOPLE EVOLVE FROM APES?

By Andy Manning

I. INTRODUCTION

1. In schools across America, children are taught the theory of evolution as fact. In my public school growing up, I was first taught evolution in my sixth-grade science class. My mother didn't want me to be indoctrinated with an unbiblical idea, so she got special permission for me to sit out during that unit and work on a special science project.
2. The problem is that the theory of evolution contradicts the Bible. The first chapters of the Bible say that God created all living things according to their kinds in six successive twenty-four-hour days. It doesn't say that all living things evolved naturally from a single-cell organism over a long period of time.
3. If evolution is true, then the first chapters of Genesis are wrong. If the first chapters of the Bible are wrong, then so is the rest of the Bible.
4. The theory of evolution, in many cases, is a big reason that many young people leave the faith when they grow up. And it is big reason that many adults don't turn to Christ. Evolution is a fact, they think; it is proven science. Therefore, the Bible and Christianity must be false.
5. But evolution is not a fact. It is a theory, and a bad one at that. When you look at the science, the evidence points to creation rather than evolution.
6. What is evolution? The theory of evolution was popularized by Charles Darwin in his 1859 book *On the Origin of Species*. According to his theory, all life forms today evolved gradually over time from a single ancestor.
 - i. **Darwin**, *The Origin of Species* "Therefore I should infer from analogy that probably all the organic beings which have ever lived on this earth have descended from some one primordial form, into which life was first breathed."
 - ii. **Dr. Carl Werner** put it this way in his book *Evolution: The Grand Experiment Vol 1*, Dr. Carl Werner (p. 24), "The modern theory of evolution suggests that over the course of millions and millions of years, this primordial single-cell organism evolved into a

multicellular invertebrate, which evolved into a vertebrate fish, which evolved into a semi-aquatic amphibian, which evolved into a land-based reptile. Then one type of land-based reptile changed into a bird, while another type of land-based reptile changed into a mammal. The mammal then slowly evolved into a primate (ape), which eventually evolved into humans.”

7. Today I want to show you four problems with the theory of evolution.

II. **FOUR PROBLEMS WITH EVOLUTION**

1. Evolution has never been observed.

- i. Science is based on observation. Yet Evolutionists believe in evolution even though it has never been observed in nature.
- ii. Actually, let me clarify. Micro-evolution has been observed, but macro-evolution has not.
- iii. When someone asks you if you believe in evolution, you need to ask them what kind; macro or micro. Everyone, even creationists, believe in microevolution. But only Darwinian evolutionists believe in macroevolution.
- iv. What’s the difference?
- v. Microevolution is change within a kind. Macroevolution is change between kinds. Microevolution is small changes within a species, while macroevolution is large changes that produce new species. For example, microevolution is dogs changing into different kinds of dogs, but macroevolution is dogs changing into cats.
- vi. Everyone believes in micro-evolution because it has been observed. For example, through breeding, dog breeders are able to make all kinds of changes in a dog – size, hair color, hair length, strength, etc. This is called microevolution because the dogs are still dogs. However, dog breeders have never been able to take a dog and create a cat.
- vii. What evolutionists do is they take something that is observable – microevolution – and they assume something non-observable – macroevolution. They assume that since micro-changes can be observed in nature, then given enough time, macroevolution could take place. In other words, since we can see micro-evolution in dog breeding, then surely over millions of years a dog

could become a cat, and an ape could become a man. But it's just a theory because nobody has ever seen it happen.

- viii. Evolutionists suggest that there are two mechanisms that cause evolution to work: Random mutations, and natural selection.
 - 1. Random mutations occur when a fruit fly is born with an extra leg.
 - 2. Natural selection means the survival of the fittest. The seven-leg fruit fly then passes on those genes to its offspring, and because the extra leg is so advantageous that eventually all the six-leg flies die off, and all that are left are seven-leg flies.
 - 3. Evolutionists believe that if you combine random mutations, plus natural selection, plus millions of years, fruit flies could change into birds, and birds can change into bats, and bats can change into mice.
- ix. But once again, these theories contradict what scientists have observed.
 - 1. First of all, mutations are almost never advantageous, and they are usually harmful. For example, scientists have taken fruit flies and intentionally caused mutations. Using fruit flies is important because they reproduce every few days, and so you can easily see what many changes over time would look like. But they've been unsuccessful in causing any kind of beneficial evolution. The mutations are rarely advantageous. For example, they were able to produce a fruit fly with an extra pair of wings, but the wings didn't work. They were just stationary. Most of the time, the mutations were harmful, such as legs coming out of the fly's head.
 - 2. Second, no one has ever seen natural selection lead to the creation of a new kind of animal. For example, let's say there is a bear that lives in the North Pole, and it comes in two different colors – white and dark gray. Since it is easier for the white bears to sneak up on their prey, the white bears survive better, and eventually the bears with the dark

grey die out and there are only white bears. That's called natural selection, or microevolution. Everyone believes in that. It is observable. But nobody has ever seen a bear turn into a walrus.

- x. In other words, there are different kinds of animals. There is the feline kind: cats, lions, tigers, etc. There is the canine kind: wolves, poodles, German shepherds. And there is humankind. Darwinian evolution claims one kind of animal evolved into a completely different kind. But this has never been observed. If you ask an evolutionist why we can't observe a change of kind, they would say it's because it takes millions of years. But that's not science; that's faith. And it's blind faith, because it's not backed up by science or reason.

2. Life cannot come from non-life.

- i. Evolutionists believe that all living things evolved from the same ancestor – a single cell organism.
- ii. Where did that first single cell organism come from?
- iii. This topic is called the origin of life. How did the first life originate?
- iv. Evolutionists believe that the first life form on earth, a single-cell organism, naturally (without divine intervention) came to life from a mixture of chemicals.
- v. The hypothesis that life came from non-life is called abiogenesis, or spontaneous generation. It is the belief that life spontaneously generated from non-living matter.
- vi. For thousands of years, going all the way back to Aristotle, leading thinkers have held that life came from non-life. There was a time when, if you didn't believe this, you would have been laughed out of the room. You would have been labeled anti-science.
- vii. A scientist in the 1600s claimed he had proof of spontaneous generation. He took a jar and put dirty underwear and wheat in it. Twenty-one days later he saw a mouse – fully grown – crawl out. Obviously, the mouse first crawled into the jar, but everyone believed his theory. If you dared to doubt spontaneous generation, you were an enemy of science.

- viii. But there is a big problem with this view? Scientists have already disproven spontaneous generation.
- ix. Two scientists disproved spontaneous generation.
 - 1. Francesco Redi: In the 1600s, scientists thought they had proof of spontaneous generation. If you placed a piece of meat in an open jar and left it out for several weeks, maggots would appear on the meat. They believed that the maggots were spontaneously generated from the dead meat. But then Francesco Redi disproved this. He simply placed the meat in the jar, and then placed a piece of cheese cloth over the mouth of the jar. Because of this maggots never appeared on the meat. Why not? Because maggots come from flies, and the flies can't get in the jar and lay eggs on the meat if the cheese cloth is in the way.
 - 2. Louis Pasteur: In the 1800s scientists again thought they had proof of spontaneous generation. They took pond water, boiled it, poured it into a jar, and then after a few weeks the water became cloudy and pond scum formed. But then in 1859 a scientist named Louis Pasteur disproved this theory by showing that the pond scum was coming not from the water, but from the bacteria in the air that landed in the water. Once and for all the theory of spontaneous generation, or abiogenesis, was disproved and laid to rest.
- x. Unfortunately, even though science has disproven spontaneous generation, evolutionists still believe in it. They say that even though they have never observed spontaneous generation, it could happen given enough time.

3. The fossil record lacks transitional forms.

- i. If evolution is true, then the fossil record would show it. For example, let's say that a whale evolved from a hyena, which some evolutionists believe. We should be able to find fossils of whales and hyenas, as well as transitional fossils of whale-like hyenas, and hyena-like whales.
- ii. Darwin knew that the fossil record was important for his theory to hold up. Unfortunately, during his lifetime, the fossil record didn't

show any transitional forms. It showed hyenas and whales, but nothing in between. This greatly bothered him.

- iii. In *The Origin of Species*, **Darwin** wrote, “Why then is not every geological formation and every stratum full of such intermediate links? Geology assuredly does not reveal any such finely-graduated organic chain; and this, perhaps, is the most obvious and serious objection which can be urged against the theory.”
- iv. In that same book, Darwin devoted two chapters to apologizing for this. He basically said, “If my theory is true, then the fossil record will show it. I’m sorry that the fossil record doesn’t currently show it but have no fear. As more fossils are discovered, transitional fossils will be found.
- v. The good news is that since Darwin’s time, scientists have collected almost one billion fossils.
 1. Of the 43 living land animal orders, such as carnivores, rodents, bats, and apes, nearly all, or 97.7 percent, have been found as fossils.
 2. Of the 178 living land animal families, such as dogs, bears, hyenas, and cats, 87.8 percent have been found as fossils.
 3. *Evolution: The Grand Experiment Vol 1*, Dr. Carl Werner, p. 85
- vi. The bad news for Darwin and evolutionists is that the transitional forms are absent.
- vii. Again, to prove that evolution is true, you would need to take two animals that look dissimilar, like a hyena and a whale, and you would need to find fossils of both, as well as all the transitional forms in between. Instead, the fossil record shows is whales and hyenas suddenly appearing, with no transitional fossils beneath them.

4. Gradualism cannot account for irreducible complexity.

- i. Darwin told us how to debunk his theory. He said that if you could find a complex organ or system in nature that could not have gradually evolved over time through successive changes, then his theory would be wrong.

- ii. **Darwin** “If it could be demonstrated that any complex organ existed, which could not possibly have been formed by numerous, successive, slight modifications, my theory would absolutely break down.”
- iii. What did he mean? Well, take a mouse trap for example. A mouse trap has five parts: Platform, hammer, spring, catch, and a hold-down bar. If you take away any of those five parts, then it has no function. It is irreducibly complex. You can’t reduce it and it still have any function. Darwin knew that if you could find a living organ or organism that was irreducibly complex, that couldn’t have evolved slowly over time, then his theory would be debunked. If you could find a complex living organism that couldn’t possibly have evolved then that would mean that it had to have been created, or intelligently designed.
- iv. Biochemist **Michael Behe** calls this concept irreducible complexity. He defines it as “a single system composed of several well-matched, interacting parts that contribute to the basic function, wherein the removal of any one of the parts causes the system to effectively cease functioning.” So if something can’t function without one of its parts, then it couldn’t have gradually developed, one part at a time. It had to have been created.
- v. Since Darwin’s time, scientists have discovered many of these complex organs and systems.
- vi. For example, in Darwin’s day, they didn’t have the equipment to look inside of a cell. With their microscopes the cell looked like a tiny blob of gel. But today scientists can see inside the cell, and what they have found is amazing. Inside the cell there is a tiny organ called a flagellum, which performs important functions in the cell. It is attached like a tail to some bacteria like a motor, and it helps bacteria move around the cell to find food.
- vii. In her book *Total Truth*, **Nacy Pearcy** wrote, “It is a microscopic outboard rotary motor that comes equipped with a hook joint, a drive shaft, O-rings, a stator, and a bi-directional acid-powered motor than can hum along up to 100,000 revolutions per minute. Structures like these require dozens of precisely tailored,

intricately interacting parts, which could not emerge by any gradual process. Instead the coordinated parts must somehow appear on the scene all at the same time, combined and coordinated in the right patterns, for the molecular machine to function at all.”

- viii. In other words, a flagellum is made up of several parts, and it needs each part to function. If you were to remove any of its parts, it could not function. It would serve no purpose. That means that the flagellum could not have gradually evolved over time. It had to have been created all at once.
- ix. So, irreducibly complex organs exist, and as Darwin himself predicted, this debunks his theory, because they can only be the product of creation.

III. CONCLUSION

1. These are only some of the problems with evolution. There are many more.
2. Why, then, do so many people still believe in evolution? I have three responses to that question.
3. First, more people believe in creation than in evolution.
 - i. According to a 2024 Gallup survey, only 24% say that God was not involved in human origins, while 37% say that God created humans in their present form within the past 10,000 years.
4. Second, many people believe in evolution because evolution is taught unchallenged in governments schools.
 - i. In public schools and colleges, they only teach one story of origins – evolution.
 - ii. They don’t teach creation and evolution and allow the kids to decide based on the evidence.
 - iii. Not only that, but when they teach evolution, they don’t even show the problems and challenges with evolution. They simply teach it as settled science.
 - iv. No wonder so many people believe it.
5. Third, many scientists cling to evolution because of their religion – naturalism.

- i. Naturalism (or materialism) is the belief that nature is all there is. The supernatural doesn't exist.
 - ii. Therefore, when they look at scientific evidence, they refuse to entertain the possibility of intelligent design or creation.
 - iii. In other words, even if the evidence points heavily toward intelligent design, evolutionists refuse to acknowledge it. They just say, even though it looks like there is a God behind it, there can't be, because God doesn't exist, so there must be things about nature and evolution that we still don't understand.
6. Why do so many scientists adhere to the religion of naturalism? One reason is because they don't like the idea of a God who can tell them how to live. They believe in evolution it means that God doesn't exist, and if God doesn't exist, then they can live however they want. They believe in evolution not because of the evidence, but because they want it to be true.
7. Julian Huxley used to be a leader among evolutionists. One time he was a guest on the Merv Griffin TV show. Merv Griffin asked, "Why do people believe in evolution?" Huxley admitted, "The reason we accepted Darwinism even without proof, is because we didn't want God to interfere with our sexual mores." (Geisler and Turek, *I Don't Have Enough Faith to be an Atheist*, p. 163.)
8. Lee Strobel is a Christian speaker and author of many of books, including *The Case for Christ*. Before he became a Christian he was an atheist and an evolutionist. He wrote, "I was more than happy to latch on to Darwinism as an excuse to jettison the idea of God so I could unabashedly pursue my own agenda in life without any moral constraints." (Geisler and Turek, *I Don't Have Enough Faith to be an Atheist*, p. 163.)
9. Author and speaker Ron Carlson was lecturing at a major university on the problems with evolution and the evidence for Intelligent Design. That evening he had dinner with a biology professor who attended the lecture. Carlson asked him what he thought about the lecture. The professor said, "Well, Ron, what you say is true and makes a lot of sense. But I'm gonna continue to teach Darwinism anyway." Confused, Ron Carlson asked him why. He said, "Well, to be honest with you, Ron, it's

because Darwinism is morally comfortable... If Darwinism is true – if there is no God and we all evolved from slimy green algae – then I can sleep with whomever I want. In Darwinism, there’s no moral accountability.” (Geisler and Turek, *I Don’t Have Enough Faith to be an Atheist*, p. 163.)

10. The Bible teaches creation from beginning to end.

- i. **Genesis 1:1** In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.
- ii. **Exodus 20:11** “For the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and everything in them in six days; then he rested on the seventh day....”
- iii. **Jeremiah 27:5** “By my great strength and outstretched arm, I made the earth, and the people, and animals on the face of the earth.”
- iv. **Revelation 4:11** “Our Lord and God, you are worthy to receive glory and honor and power, because you have created all things, and by your will they exist and were created.”

11. Observational science points to creation.

- i. Macro-evolution has never been observed. No one has ever seen a mouse turn into a bat.
- ii. Life cannot come from non-life. Spontaneous generation has been disproven. Life can only come from life.
- iii. The fossil records doesn’t show transitional forms.
- iv. Gradualism cannot account for the irreducibly complex organs and systems that we see in nature.

12. You did not evolve from apes. Anyone who says that is trying to make a monkey out of you. God created you. He loves you. And He created you for a purpose, to love Him back. And you will only be happy and fulfilled when you believe in Jesus Christ and surrender your life to Him.

13. Evolution says you are an accident. You’re just an intelligent animal. You have no purpose. There is no meaning to life. When you die you become food for worms.

14. Let me tell you what the God says about you. God made you to have a relationship with Him. But you are a sinner; we all are. We have all chosen to reject God’s leadership and go our own way. The punishment

for sin is eternal separation from God. But God still loves you, and He made a way for you to come back to Him. He sent Jesus to die on the cross for your sins. If you will believe in Jesus and turn from your sins, God will forgive you, and restore you to Himself, and give you the gift of eternal life.

15. If you would like to receive God's forgiveness and receive eternal life today, let me explain what you need to do.

- i. A – Admit that you are a sinner.
- ii. B – Believe in Jesus.
- iii. C – Call on Jesus to be your Lord and Savior.