

Christian Evidences

Lesson 10:

Creation vs. Evolution



Review

- Evidences for Jesus being the Christ, the Son of God
 - Jesus' claims
 - External Evidence
 - Secular writers – Jesus was a historical person
 - Internal Evidence – Miracles
 - The Death, Burial, and Resurrection of Jesus



In the Beginning

“In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.” (Gen. 1:1)

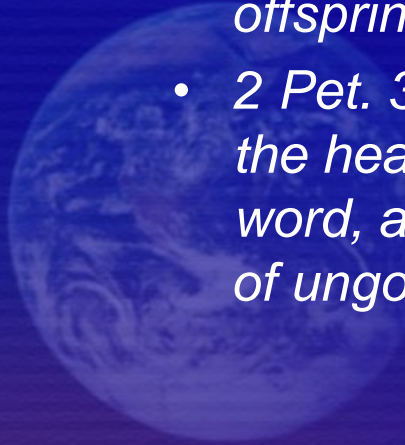
- A simple yet profound statement that begins the Bible
- In Genesis 1, we have a description of the origin of mankind and all that we see
 - Stated as a fact of history not a theory
 - Is either true or it is not
 - If we believe the Bible to be reliable and of Divine origin, we should accept these truths
- The question of origins - debated for a long time
- Only natural to wonder where we came from

In the Beginning

- The Bible is quite clear on the subject
 - The Lord was the creative force and it was all spoken into existence in six days
 - *Ex. 20:11 – “For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them ...”*
 - *Psa. 33:6-9 – “By the word of the LORD the heavens were made, And all the host of them by the breath of His mouth ... He spoke, and it was done; He commanded, and it stood fast.”*
 - *Jn. 1:3,10 – “All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world did not know Him.”*
 - *Acts 17:24 - “God, who made the world and everything in it ...”*
 - *Col. 1:16 – “For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible ...”*

In the Beginning

- He continues to govern or sustain all things
 - *Col. 1:17 – “And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist.”*
 - *Heb. 1:1-3 – “God, ... has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, ... through whom also He made the worlds ... upholding all things by the word of His power ...”*
 - *Acts 17:28 – “for in Him we live and move and have our being, as also some of your own poets have said, 'For we are also His offspring.’”*
 - *2 Pet. 3:5-7 – “... by the word of God the heavens were of old ... the heavens and the earth which are now preserved by the same word, are reserved for fire until the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men.”*



Evolution

- Evolution – literally means an “unfolding” or “unrolling”
 - Has generally come to be used to describe a theory for origins
- “The theory of evolution”
 - The hypothesis that millions of years ago lifeless matter acted upon by natural forces, gave origin to one or more minute living organisms which have since evolved into all living and extinct plants and animals, including man.
 - A simpler definition: belief in change with descent from a common ancestor. Evolution as defined here, involves pure chance.



Evolution

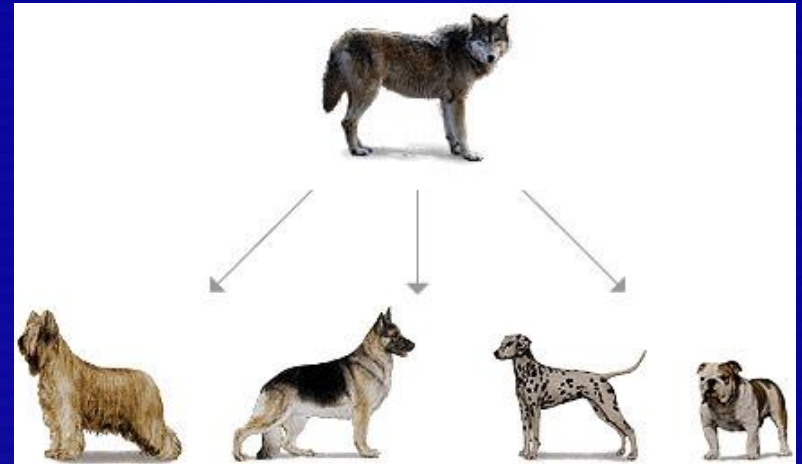
- “Special Theory of Evolution” (micro-evolution)
 - The theory that many living animals can be observed over the course of time to undergo changes so that new species are formed
- “General Theory of Evolution” (macro-evolution)
 - The theory that all living forms in the world have arisen from a single source which itself came from an inorganic form
 - Really, only a working hypothesis



Evolution

- “micro-evolution”

- Small changes like the improvement of animal stock; change within bounds; differentiation, variation, fluctuation
- Easily observed, and there is no debate over this



- “macro-evolution”

- Large changes; e.g. a water animal becoming a creeping thing, which becomes a beast, which becomes a man
- Has never been observed

Evolution

- What some evolutionists say:
 - “All reputable biologists have agreed that evolution of life on Earth is an established fact” (Drs. Vance and Miller)
 - “The first point to make about Darwin’s theory is that it is no longer a theory, but a fact” (Sir Julian Huxley)
 - Their intent: to teach that evolution is a ‘fact’ of science, and that anyone ‘reputable,’ anyone ‘entitled to a judgment,’ accepts evolution as a fact
- Organic evolution is not a ‘fact’ of science
 - ... It is not now, has never been, and will never be!
- Even prominent evolutionists admit openly that it is not:
 - “The pathetic thing is that we have scientists who are trying to prove evolution, which no scientist can ever prove.” (Dr. Robert A. Millikan, Nobel laureate in physics)

Evolution

- Dr. G. A. Kerkut listed seven assumptions upon which evolution is based:
 - 1) Non-living things gave rise to living material, i.e. spontaneous generation occurred.
 - 2) Spontaneous generation occurred only once.
 - 3) Viruses, bacteria, plants and animals are all interrelated.
 - 4) The Protozoa gave rise to the Metazoa.
 - 5) The various invertebrate phyla are interrelated.
 - 6) The invertebrates gave rise to the vertebrates.
 - 7) Within the vertebrates, the fish gave rise to the amphibian, the amphibian to the reptiles, and the reptiles to the birds and mammals.
- He then stated:
 - “The first point that I should like to make is that these seven assumptions by their nature are not capable of experimental verification.”

Why Do People Believe Evolution?

- “The main reason most educated people believe in evolution is simply because they **have been told that most educated people believe in evolution**” (Dr. Henry Morris)
- “Evolution itself is accepted by zoologists, not because it has been observed to occur ... or can be proved by logically coherent evidence, but because **the only alternative, special creation, is clearly incredible**” (D.M.S. Watson, an evolutionist)
 - “Evolution is unproved and unprovable. We believe it because the only alternative is special creation, and that is unthinkable.” (Sir Arthur Keith)
- Some are **honestly convinced** that there is evidence to support such a belief.

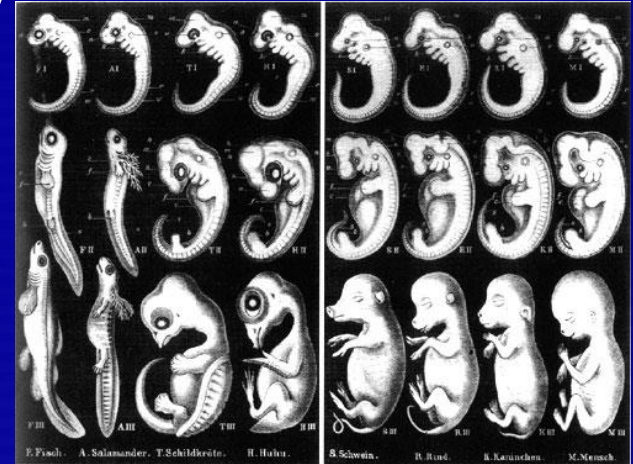
Supposed proofs of evolution:

Comparative embryology

- Darwin asserted:
 - Similarity among the various embryos of animals and man was a primary proof of the theory of evolution
- Ernst Henrich Haeckel (1834-1919):
 - Developed the so-called 'theory of embryonic recapitulation':
 - Successive stages of embryonic development repeat the evolutionary stages of one's animal ancestry
- However, Sir Arthur Keith wrote in 1947:
 - "It was expected that the embryo would recapitulate the features of its ancestors from the lowest to the highest forms in the animal kingdom. Now that the appearances of the embryo at all stages are known, the general feeling is one of disappointment; the human embryo at no stage is anthropoid in appearance. The embryo of the mammal never resembles the worm, the fish, or the reptile. Embryology provides no support whatsoever for the evolutionary hypothesis."

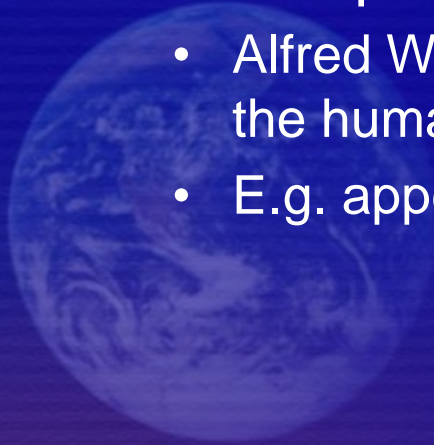
Supposed proofs of evolution: Comparative embryology

- Regarding Haeckel
 - He was also an accomplished artist
 - Used falsified drawings to accompany his articles
 - Altered the illustrations of his colleagues and also used the same illustration labeled as a human, a dog, and a rabbit to show their similarity
 - The University of Jena “convicted” Haeckel of fraud
- Known for over 100 years that this theory is not correct
 - Yet, Haeckel’s drawings are still turning up in modern biology texts as “proof” of evolution. Why? Dr. John Tyler Bonner:
 - “We may have known for almost a hundred years that Haeckel’s blastaea-gastraea theory of the origin of the metazoan is probably nonsense, but it is so clear-cut, so simple, so easy to hand full-blown to the student.”



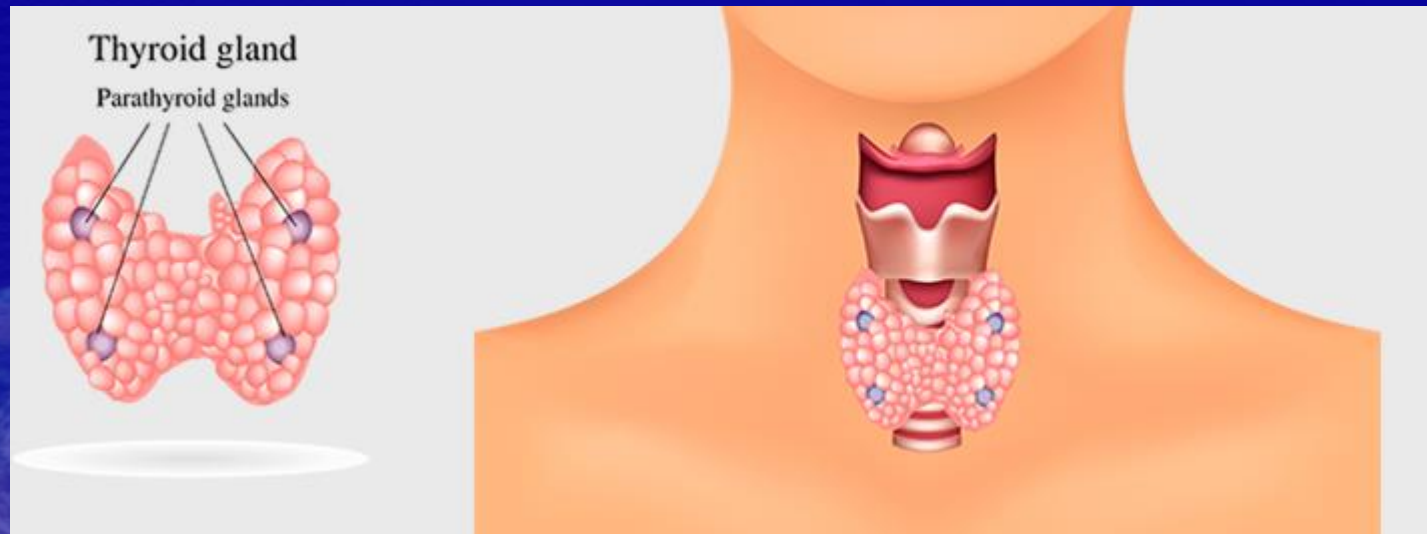
Supposed proofs of evolution: Vestigial Structures

- “Vestigial structures”
 - Those organs found in man and animals which evolutionists claim to be degenerate and thus useless
 - Supposedly, while useless to present day animals, were at one time useful to their evolutionary predecessors
 - Said to be “remnants” – leftovers – which eventually will be lost through evolutionary processes of selection
- When “proof” first set forth, literally hundreds of examples
 - Alfred Weidersheim published a list of 180 vestigial structures in the human
 - E.g. appendix, tonsils, thymus, pineal gland and thyroid gland



Supposed proofs of evolution: Vestigial Structures

- Dr. R.L. Wysong:
 - Today, all former vestigial organs are known to have some function during the life of the individual



Supposed proofs of evolution: Vestigial Structures

- Dr. R.L. Wysong:
 - Today, all former vestigial organs are known to have some function during the life of the individual
 - If the organ has any function at any time, it cannot be called rudimentary or vestigial
 - As man's knowledge has increased the list of vestigial organs decreased
- What really was "vestigial?" Was it not man's rudimentary knowledge of the intricacies of the body?
- If man does have 180 vestigial organs, then in the past he would have had more organs than he now has
 - "He would have been developing the organs that he presently has plus he would have had the 180 functional vestigial organs
 - The farther we go back in time, the more complex the organism! Rather an interesting evolutionary twist." (Wysong)

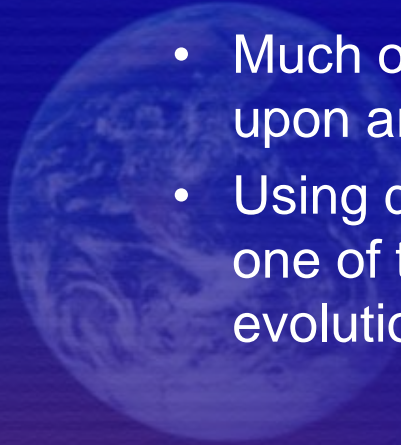
Supposed proofs of evolution: Vestigial Structures

- Evolutionists who keep up with the scientific literature rarely discuss this issue any longer
- No evidences of the transitional stages between functioning organs and useless organs
 - These so-called 'useless' appendages would prove degeneration, not evolution
 - Evolution is the rise of new, different, and functioning organs, not the wasting away of organs



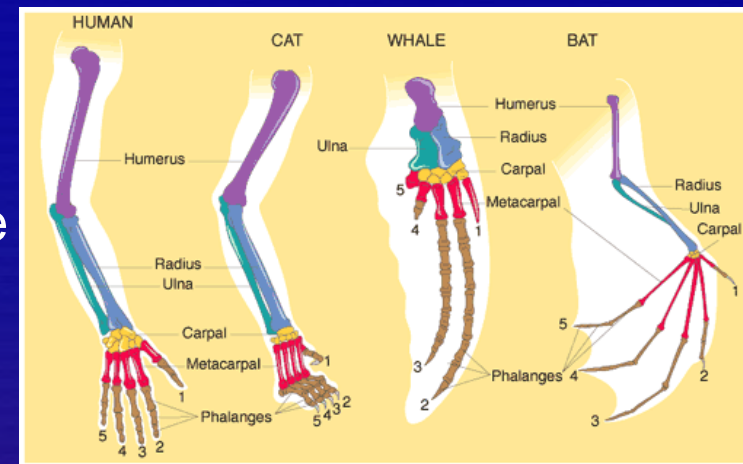
Supposed proofs of evolution: Comparative Anatomy

- Dr. Carl Sagan:
 - “The inner workings of terrestrial organisms – from microbes to men – are so similar in their biochemical details as to make it highly likely that all organisms on the Earth have evolved from a single instance of the origin of life.”
- The comparative sciences, especially anatomy and physiology, are considered among the strongest alleged evidences for evolution
 - Much of the case for ‘amoeba-to-man’ type evolution is built upon arguments from similarity
 - Using descent from a common ancestor to explain similarities is one of the most ‘logical’ and appealing ideas used by evolutionists today



Supposed proofs of evolution: Comparative Anatomy

- ‘Descent from a common ancestry’ idea seems to make sense
- Evolutionists point out that:
 - The wing of a bat, the forefoot of a turtle, the forefoot of a frog, and the arm of a man all have the same general structure
 - Also, that the forefoot of the dog, the flipper of the whale, and the hand of a man have essentially the same bones and muscles
- Here, an extremely valuable lesson can be learned in the creation / evolution controversy:
 - It is rarely the data that are in dispute – it is the interpretation placed on the data that is in dispute



Supposed proofs of evolution: Comparative Anatomy

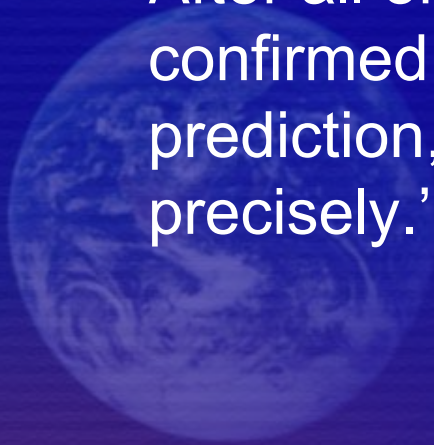
- The evolutionist:
 - Similarity is proof of common ancestry.
- The creationist
 - Similarity is proof of creation according to a common design!
- However, it is necessary for the evolutionists to collect only the similarities and to neglect the numerous differences
- Dr. T.H. Morgan candidly admitted:
 - “If, then it can be established beyond dispute that similarity or even identity of the same character in different species is not always to be interpreted to mean that both have arisen from a common ancestry, the whole argument from comparative anatomy seems to tumble in ruins.

Supposed proofs of evolution: Comparative Anatomy

- “If the law of similarity can be used to show evolutionary relationships, then dissimilarities can be used to show a lack of relationship ...” (Wysong)
- Dr. Colin Patterson (senior paleontologist of the British Museum of Natural History):
 - He had ‘experienced a shift from evolution as knowledge to evolution as faith.’
 - Presented specific example after example of how the evolutionary hypothesis of common ancestry acted as an ‘anti-theory’ that conveys ‘anti-knowledge’
 - Presented data on amino acid sequences for the alpha hemoglobins of vipers, crocodiles, and chickens:
 - Crocodile and chicken showed the greatest similarity (17.5% of their amino acids in common)
 - The two reptiles with the least similarity (5.6%)

Supposed proofs of evolution: Comparative Anatomy

- Dr. Colin Patterson (continued):
 - Amino acids in myoglobin:
 - Crocodiles and lizards (two reptiles) share 10.5%
 - But a lizard and a chicken (reptile/bird) also share the same percentage (10.5%)
 - Studies of mitochondrial DNA done on man and various primates: where there should have been a high percentage of similarities, there was a very low percentage.
- After all of his data were presented, Dr. Patterson (a confirmed evolutionist) remarked: 'The theory makes a prediction, we've tested it, and the prediction is falsified precisely.'



Supposed proofs of evolution: Comparative Anatomy

- The creation model suggests similarities due to a common Designer
 - Used 'economy of design' (just like architects and other designers do today, locating items that work well and using them consistently in each thing they design)
 - The Creator used those things He knew would work well in all (or most) organisms, because He knew we would all have to breathe the same air, drink the same water, eat the same types of organic foods, and in general co-inhabit the Earth.
 - He then varied the 'blueprint' as He saw fit, to adapt an organism to a particular environment.
- **The creation model accounts for both similarities and differences.** The evolution model cannot account for numerous differences, thereby 'tumbling in ruins.'

“I will praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; marvelous are Your works, and that my soul knows very well.”

(Psa. 139:14)

