

Evolution vs. Creation

Lesson Two

Science: The New Gnosticism

2/26/2006

Key Points:

- Observational science is grounded in the belief that an orderly universe can be studied.
 - Historically there was no division between science and faith.
 - Science was once understood as *one* source of knowledge, but now holds itself up as the *only* source of knowledge
 - 2 Peter 3:3-6 – they deliberately forget who made the universe
- The Age of Enlightenment and 19th-century Modernism led to a denial of the supernatural realm
 - elevation of human experience and logic as the source of all knowledge
 - science viewed as the pathway to freedom and progress, religion viewed as a source of repression and superstition
- Too many people uncritically accept what an “expert” says – even when they’re being patently absurd
 - has science ever been wrong? too many times to count!
- The early chapters of Genesis are treated as true history by the New Testament authors. The Bible is not a science textbook but must be completely accurate where it touches on matters of science.
- The Bible is not contrary to science, but encourages man to understand and use the world around him
 - Gen 1:26-28 – dominion mandate (implies you have to understand the creation in order to rule over it)
 - Gen 2:15 – God put Adam in the garden to work it and keep it (agronomy)
 - Gen 2:19-20 – Adam names the creatures (taxonomy)
 - Ps 8 – when I consider your heavens (astronomy)
 - Ps 115:16 – God created the heavens and gave the earth to man (stewardship)
 - Pr 6:6-8 – look to the ant (entomology)
 - Is 40:26 – look to the heavens (astronomy)
 - Luke 12:22-31 – consider the ravens and the lilies (ornithology, botany)
 - Jas 3:5 – great forest set ablaze by a small spark (thermodynamics & heat)
- God is the source of all wisdom
 - the wisdom of man is foolishness in God’s sight
 - 1 Cor 1:25
 - 1 Cor 2:14
 - 1 Cor 3:19
 - God founded the world on wisdom
 - Ps 104:24 – in wisdom you made the creatures
 - Ps 111:10 – fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom
 - Pr 2:6 – the Lord gives wisdom

- Pr 8:23 – wisdom came before the foundation of the world
- Jas 1:5 – ask God who gives wisdom

Selected Quotes:

Richard Dawkins: “It is absolutely safe to say that if you meet somebody who claims not to believe in evolution, that person is ignorant, stupid, or insane (or wicked, but I’d rather not consider that).”

Carl Sagan: “The cosmos is all that is or ever was or ever will be.”

Richard Dawkins: “Biology is the study of complicated things that give the appearance of being designed for a purpose.” His basis for denying that things were designed for a purpose is a philosophical one, not a scientific one. “Even if there were no actual evidence in favor of the Darwinian theory . . . we should still be justified in preferring it over all rival theories.”

Louis T. More: “The more one studies paleontology, the more certain one becomes that evolution is based on faith alone.”

D.M.S. Watson: Evolution is universally accepted “not because it has been observed to occur or can be proved by logically coherent evidence to be true, but because the only alternative – special creation – is clearly incredible.”

Sir Arthur Keith: “Evolution is unproved and unprovable. We believe it because the only alternative is special creation, which is unthinkable.”

David Allbrook: Evolution is “a time-honored scientific tenet of faith.”

Duane Gish: “Evolution is a fairy tale for adults.”

Arthur Field: Evolution is based “upon belief in the reality of the unseen; belief in the fossils that cannot be produced, belief in the embryological evidence that does not exist, belief in the breeding experiments that refuse to come off.”

Julian Huxley: “I suppose the reason we leaped at The Origin of Species was because the idea of God interfered with our sexual mores.”

Thomas Huxley: “It is clear that the doctrine of evolution is directly antagonistic to that of Creation Evolution, if consistently accepted, makes it impossible to believe the Bible.”

Roger Dehart: “If something in science suddenly becomes so sacrosanct that you can’t question it, then it ceases to be science.”

Ernst Haeckel: “The mental life of savages rises little above that of the higher mammals, especially the apes, with which they are genealogically connected . . . we must, therefore, assign a totally different value to their lives.”

Gareth J. Nelson: “It is a mistake to believe that even one fossil species or fossil ‘group’ can be demonstrated to have been ancestral to another.”

Austin H. Clark: “No matter how far back we go in the fossil record of previous animal life upon the earth we find no trace of any animal forms which are intermediate between the various major groups or phyla. . . . If we are willing to accept the facts we must believe that there never were such intermediates, or in other words that these major groups have from the very first borne the same relation to each other that they bear today.”

Thomas Hunt Morgan: “Within the period of human history, we do not know of a single instance of the transformation of one species into another, if we apply the most rigid and extreme tests used to distinguish wild species from each other.”

Colin Patterson: “No one has ever produced a species by mechanisms of natural selection. No one has gotten near it and most of the current argument in neo-Darwinism is about this question.”

Albert Fleischmann: “The Darwinian theory of descent has not a single fact to confirm it in the realm of nature. It is not the result of scientific research, but purely the product of imagination.”

Wolfgang Smith: “And yet the fact remains that there exists not a shred of *bona fide* scientific evidence in support of the thesis that macroevolutionary transformations have ever occurred.”

Greg Koukl: “. . . scientific empiricism became scientific imperialism: science as the final measure of all truth.”

Nancy Pearcey: “If Darwinism is true, then both religion and philosophical absolutes (like Goodness, Truth, and Beauty) are strictly speaking false or ‘fraudulent.’”

James Tonkovich: “Intelligent design is not just a major shift in the way we think about the particulars of cosmology and biology. It is a major shift in the way we think about all of life and in the way we live life as individuals and as a culture.”