

In the beginning

It is difficult for us to think about our existence and not think about beginnings. We live in a 24-hour day, each day starts with a sunrise and ends with a sunset. Time is broken up into days, weeks, and months. We track our birthdays, anniversaries, time of employment, and the age of our children. Each of these events in our life had a beginning.

When we think back about our existence, it is in reference to a timeline of events. And so when the bible opens the very first chapter with the words, "*In the beginning*"; it seems only natural that there must have been a beginning for the events in the bible as well. Everything we touch, taste, feel, see, and hear had a beginning. It's only when we read the next seven words, "*God created the heaven and the earth*", that we begin to ponder the unthinkable. How did God create all of this, where did the "stuff" come from, and who created God? What about the six days of creation? Every one knows you can't create heaven and earth in six days. After all, the very science we use to investigate our surroundings cannot produce a model with such incredible timing.

The fact is, there are many statements throughout the bible that clearly declare God, not nature, created all things. This creation includes man; "*Let us make man in our image, after our likeness*". If you say, I do not believe Genesis; you are faced with another problem. The bible restates throughout its pages the same message; that God, not nature, created all things. The story of creation of all that we see and don't see that is found in Genesis has been credited to Jewish myths, folklore (stories handed down from earlier cultures), and just plain lying. The account is given the same weight as a novel or a good story told around the fireplace. People who actually believe the account of creation found in Genesis are written off as religious wishful dreamers or they just refuse to believe the facts. After all, science and religion cannot be discussed in the same breath. Everyone knows that science is about established facts that can be

proved using scientific methods. Religion, on the other hand, is based on wishful thinking by people who do not understand the importance of satisfying the rational minds of scientists.

Consider the following scripture from the New Testament. The following declaration is made in Colossians - ***"For by Him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers – all things were created by Him, and for Him; And he is before all things, and by Him all things consist."*** This declaration goes far beyond the mere creation of all things; the bible is making it clear that the day-to-day existence of all things depends on the constant intervention of Jesus Christ.

The first chapter of John begins with these words ***"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not anything made that was made."***

In Romans, chapter 1; verse 20, ***"For the invisible things of him from creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power, and Godhead, so that they are without excuse."*** And again in Hebrews we have this scripture; ***"Through faith we understand the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made by things which do appear."*** This verse in Hebrews is in direct opposition to a "theory" that relies on the natural order of nature to produce life.

The bible is full of similar statements that declare that God is the source of not only life, but also all that we see, touch, hear, feel, and smell. In the book of Job, God questions Job in the 38th and 39th chapters and ask Job where was he when God created the heavens and the earth and to explain to God how it was accomplished. Of course Job cannot answer God and finally has to admit in the 42nd chapter the following; ***"I uttered that which I understood not; things too wonderful for me, which I knew not."***

Scholars have dissected the order of creation presented in Genesis and have come to the conclusion that creation could not have occurred as described. So man, knowing the bible has declared that God is the source of all that we see and don't see, developed a "theory" to replace the biblical account he would not believe. The "theory" would bring about the existence of all things not by the design and the sovereign will of a creator, but by the accidental and random accumulation of events called the natural order of science. According to the "theory", life progressed by random chance events over millions, perhaps billions, of years. The biological system of life we have today was a result of a process that randomly selected the events necessary to form an ordered and structured system of living plants and animals we observe in nature today.

I do not pretend to be a scholar on the many facets of such a theory. My questions about the "theory of evolution" are not complex. As stated earlier, life had to have a beginning. At some point, non life had to produce life. Although this transformation from non-life to life has never been observed, at some point in the very distant past the necessary components had to combine to produce life. When this event is discussed by the scientists that expound this theory, an explanation of the required characteristics of this new life form are never mentioned. A very simple definition of life requires a system that regulates its internal environment, possesses a capacity to grow, responds to stimuli, is able to reproduce, and has the ability to adapt to its environment.

If a life form does not possess the capacity to reproduce, new life would have to be continually produced until a life form was developed that could reproduce. As has been discovered, even the simplest life form has long DNA strings of encoded information necessary for reproduction. The probability that the DNA necessary for reproduction was produced by chance is off the charts.

Simple things like blood clotting were required the very first time the cell boundary was broken. The ability to convert food into energy, secrete waste products, and respond to stimuli was required the very first time life was produced.

As life continued to develop, intricate systems with thousands of parts needed to combine into a system that could use feedback, and encoded information to produce an output that was not known to the life form before it was developed.

I find it interesting the power that is attached to the word "evolved" & "developed". As long as these words are in the sentence, no additional explanation is necessary. For example, we see the claim made that human sight evolved from a fish that has a light sensitive line on its body. I have heard this claim made many times with little or no explanation how this was accomplished.

Have you ever seen a human fossil without an eye socket? Every intact fossil, regardless of its age, has a socket for the eyeball. The same is true for the other features of the skull, arms, legs, and other body parts. But yet once the word evolved is added to the explanation, we are to assume that all the necessary events occurred that resulted in the characteristic we see today.

Natural selection, or survival of the fittest, is trotted out every time an explanation is required to explain a feature that life "developed". Natural selection can be seen on a small scale. For example, a bacterium that has developed a resistance to medication will live while those that do not possess this trait will die. Eventually, the only bacteria that are left to reproduce are the ones that developed the resistance to the medication. We see natural selection occurring at this micro scale every day.

In order for evolution to develop life as it occurs today, this natural selection process must occur on a much larger scale producing not only new species but new systems on existing species. Let me give you an example. Let's say we want to develop sight on an animal that did not possess sight. The theory of natural selection states that over time there will be a series of mutations and the mutation that best fits the animal will be selected and all others will not. There is a major problem with this chain of events. All the parts of the eye, the lens, the cornea, the opening in the skull, the optic nerve, the simulation of information by the brain, must be developed before I can see. In other words, the entire system must be in place before there is any advantage for the life form

to select the species with sight over the one without sight. A blind person, regardless of how far their sight process has developed, is still blind. There is no advantage for natural selection to select one blind person over another.

So why have I written this? Am I trying to defend the bible's account of creation? No, this statement made in the gospel of John chapter 1 verses 1-3 needs no defense.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not anything made that was made. The verse is describing none other than Jesus Christ. It is absolutely impossible to say you believe God and not believe the creation story in Genesis. A belief "in God" is not the same as believing God. The devil believes in God.

Am I poking fun at those that believe in evolution as the creation story? No. Paul says in Romans chapter 1 verse 25 ***"For they exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever."*** Paul is talking about people who have not yet believed God. There was a time when I was included in this group of people. So why have I written this piece?

It's quite simple. Jesus was asked by his disciples in Matthew chapter 24 verse 4 the following question concerning things to come and about his return to the earth;

"Tell us," they said, "when will this happen, and what will be the sign of your coming and of the end of the age?" Jesus' response can be found in verses 4, and 5.

"Watch out that no one deceives you. For many will come in my name, claiming, 'I am the Messiah,' and will deceive many."

Deception is the devil's main weapon. The devil used deception to get Eve to taste the forbidden fruit. He tried to use deception to get Jesus to worship him instead of God. The deception of creation by evolution is so ingrained into our culture it's nearly impossible to get through a day without hearing this deception stated as a fact. School books are not allowed to mention the biblical creation story in their classrooms in fear of

a lawsuit. The very mention of God in public venues is cause for outcry by the ACLU. (The actions of the ACLU are amazing considering the famous Scopes Monkey Trial held in 1925 made famous by the movie "Inherit the Wind" starring Spencer Tracy and Frederick March was to allow schools to teach evolution in public schools. Before this trial, public schools were not allowed to teach the Theory of Evolution.)

Deception is everywhere. The decision to believe God who created the universe or the world's version that everything we see was the result of a series of chance happenings over time is too important to be left to deceptive stories made up by the world. If you choose to believe the story of evolution because you are afraid of what your friends will say if you tell them you believe the bible, you are not alone. The Jews in the bible would not proclaim Christ publicly for fear of being thrown out of the temple by the Pharisees.

God gave man the right to choose. He did not want man to be a robot doing only what God would allow him to do. God said in Deuteronomy chapter 30 verse 19:

"I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live."

I want you, the reader, if you have not done so, to think about what the world is telling you. It is important that you know the truth. Christ said in the gospel of John chapter 8 verse 32, ***"you shall know the truth and the truth shall set you free."***

Christ also said in Matthew chapter 7 verse 13, ***"Enter through the narrow gate; for the gate is wide and the way is broad that leads to destruction, and there are many who enter through it."***

Please, if you have read this far, you obviously are interested in the truth. If I have not presented information that has convinced you God is your creator, maybe I have stirred your curiosity enough for you to do some additional investigation on your own. There are plenty of good websites out there that can explain this information much better than

I. I beg you to keep up your investigation of this subject. God said in Jeremiah chapter 29, verse 13: ***"And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart."***

I have been walking with God for many years now. He is awesome. A friend you can always count on. A relationship with Jesus will leave you full of love, hope, peace, and joy.

My journey started with an investigation of the creation story. After many years of trying to believe the story of creation by evolution, I came to the conclusion that Paul writes in Colossians chapter 1 verses 16 & 17; ***"For by Him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers – all things were created by Him, and for Him; And he is before all things, and by Him all things consist."***

I pray that your mind is open to the truth. I am not bitter that deception is out there. I am bitter that deception is keeping you from knowing the truth. I am bitter that deception is keeping seekers like you from knowing Christ. He is the answer to whatever problem you face. You will not be at peace until you establish a relationship with the one who died for you. A friend of mine told me if salvation was for sale you could not keep it on the shelf. The problem is it's free. People tend to not value things that do not have a high price. Well then consider this! Before Christ, you had a sin bill you could not pay, Christ paid that price with his own blood. He now offers you his righteousness. It's the best deal you will ever make. If not accepted, it's the worst remorse you will ever have. I pray that you will make the right choice.

God Bless

John Thomas