



Evolution and the Bible

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It is my conviction that Darwinian (macro) Evolution and the Bible cannot both be true. The following list explains my conviction.

1. This is not just a matter of pairing up some details that can be interpreted in different ways. Evolution claims things came into being and changed into what we see today, without any supernatural intervention. As soon as you suppose supernatural intervention (as in deism, theism, or pantheism), it is not evolution any more. The supernatural takes us out of the natural. **So the Bible and evolution cannot both be true.**
2. The Bible does not just casually mention creation. Nor is not just a matter of getting rid of the book of Genesis, or calling it a myth, or taking it metaphorically. Creation is taught throughout the Bible. Consider:
Genesis 1:1-5, 8, 12-13, 19-20, 23-24, 27, 31; Exodus 20:11; Deuteronomy 4:32; Nehemiah 9:6; Job 38; Psalms 104:5-9, 24-26; Isaiah 45:11-12, 18; 66:1-2; Jeremiah 27:5; Matthew 19:4; Mark 10:6; John 1:1-3; Acts 17:24, 26; Romans 1:20; 4:17; 8:19-22; Colossians 1:16, 23; 1 Timothy 2:13; Hebrews 9:11; 11:3; 1 Peter 4:19; Revelation 3:14; 4:11; 5:13; 10:6.
3. Although Darwin did not create the theory of evolution as an atheist, he did create it **like** an atheist—leaving God out. Darwin put off publishing his theory for years because he realized this. Evolution did not come about from a study of Scripture. It came out of the naturalism of the mid-1800s in the social context of Voltaire’s atheism, Freudian psychology, Marxist Communism, and “Christian” liberalism. The Bible and evolution come from diametrically opposed world-views. **Both cannot be true.**
4. The only way to accurately interpret anything is by the author’s intended meaning. It is clear that no author of the Bible ever intended his readers to understand he was describing *evolution* when he said *creation*. Nor did any biblical author have any long-age processes in mind. Since no biblical author meant anything even remotely like evolution, and what they said contradicts evolution, the **Bible and evolution cannot both be true.**
5. Evolution is an atheistic view. It is just that simple. As Norm Geisler wrote:
Darwinism ... is atheism ... evolution says there is no design in nature. Therefore, there is no Designer of nature. Evolution says there was no creation. Thus it follows that there was no Creator (“Kindred Spirit,” Dallas Theological Seminary, Autumn, 1988).
6. The Bible disagrees with evolution on the order of events. Theistic evolution says the days of creation in Genesis were actually long ages. But that won’t help conform the Bible to evolution.
 - Evolution claims that living organisms originated in the sea millions of years before plants appeared. But the Bible tells us that seed-bearing plants and trees were all created on the third day. Sea life, however, was not created until the fifth day.
 - The Bible says that the sun moon and stars were created on the fourth day, but plants were created on the third day. Evolution says that the sun and the stars were created many light years earlier than any life form.
 - The Bible says the stars were created on the fourth day, but they were also visible on the fourth day because the Bible says they could be seen on the earth. Evolution says the light of stars took billions of light years to get here. So that day would have to be billions of years long. No reasonable reading of Genesis could conclude that.
 - The Bible also says that the fish and sea creatures were created the same day as the birds. Evolution says they were ages apart.
 - The Bible says that creeping things like insects were among the last things created. Yet evolution says they were among the first.

7. In Genesis, we not only have a number with each day but each day is separated by the phrase: ... *there was evening and morning, one day ... a second day ... a third day ...*, etc. Then we read that God *rested on the seventh day from all His work which He had done* (Genesis 2:2). These are called days with an evening and a morning. Even if you do not understand Genesis 1 as describing 24-hour days, the days are separated from one another by an *evening and a morning*. But evolution does not allow for any such separation. According to evolution, everything developed slowly, a continuous flow over long indefinite ages, not in six distinguishable times separated from one another. **So the Bible and evolution cannot both be true.**
8. God could have set up a creation which evolved, but He didn't. Genesis 2:2 says: *By the seventh day God **completed** His work which He had done*. But the basic assumption of the theory of evolution is that it is never **completed**. Evolution says the development of new living things continues on, all through the ages, and will continue into the future. **So the Bible and evolution cannot both be true.**
9. The Bible says: *Then God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures **after their kind**: cattle and creeping things and beasts of the earth **after their kind**"; and it was so* (Genesis 1:24). The phrase *after their kind* occurs 8 times in Genesis 1. Every plant and every creature was to reproduce *after their kind*. So when God **completed** His creation of life on earth, it was in such a way that every living thing would not change kinds into a creature of a different kind. But the theory of evolution depends on creatures evolving into others of a different kind. So for God to help evolution along would be for God to violate the natural order of things which He established and commanded to continue. So the Bible and evolution are saying the exact opposite thing. **Both cannot be true.**
10. The author of Hebrews tells us: *the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things which are visible* (Hebrews 11:3). So, according to the Bible, what we see in the natural world did not come from anything in the natural world. Its origin was not something visible, as, say, a prehistoric swamp/soup of chemicals. What we see around us in the natural world *was not made out of things which are visible*, but was *prepared by the word of God*. But evolution, even theistic evolution, teaches that what we see in nature came from other things which can be seen in nature. Again, the Bible says the opposite of evolution. **Both cannot be true.**

There are also many basic theological contradictions between evolution and the Bible:

- According to the Bible, the woman came from the rib of the man to be his helper (Genesis 2:21-23). Evolution says such a thing is absurd.
- According to the Bible, death began when Adam and Eve sinned (Genesis 3:3). According to evolution, death existed for eons before man existed.
- According to the Bible, sin began with Adam and Eve. Sin has no part in evolution, where things are developing into better things. The idea of sin, a fall, a judgment for sin, and, therefore, a need for repentance and redemption is not possible in evolution.
- According to the Bible, all animals were originally vegetarians. This is contrary to any theory of evolution.
- According to the Bible, Jesus is the Creator (John 1:1-3; Colossians 1:16-17; Hebrews 1:10), not an evolutionary assistant.

So the Bible and evolution cannot both be true.

Biblical Creation Passages Outside the Book of Genesis

Exodus 20:11 *For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.* It is simply unreasonable to imagine that Moses intended his readers to understand that the six days here refer to long ages of time and the seventh day, in the same sentence, is a 24-hour Sabbath day.

Nehemiah 9:6 *You alone are the LORD. You have made the heavens, The heaven of heavens with all their host, The earth and all that is on it, The seas and all that is in them. You give life to all of them And the heavenly host bows down before You.*

God made the heavens and the earth the same way. Are we to believe that the angels also evolved from some heavenly dust? The clear intent of Nehemiah is to say that, at a certain time, angels were created, and, at another certain time, the earth and its creatures were created.

Jeremiah 27:5 *I have made the earth, the men and the beasts which are on the face of the earth by My great power and by My outstretched arm.*

God is telling Jeremiah that there was a time in the past when he made the earth, the men, and the beasts. The Hebrew verb for *made* is עָשִׂיתִי (‘asiti) a qal perfect, which describes completed action (not ongoing action) in past time with future consequences.

Matthew 19:4 *And He answered and said, “Have you not read that He who created them from the beginning MADE THEM MALE AND FEMALE.*

1 Timothy 2:13 *For it was Adam who was first created, and then Eve.*

Jesus, in answering a question about divorce and remarriage, goes back to how God made humans to be in the beginning. There is no way to understand that Jesus meant for them to understand a slow evolution of creatures into becoming male and female. Actually, Paul said Adam was created first, then Eve. How does one fit that into a theory of evolution?

John 1:1-3 *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being.*

John tells us that all things came into being by Christ in the beginning. But if *all things* came into being through Christ, then things could not still be in the process of coming into being by evolution.

Romans 4:17 *God, who gives life to the dead and calls into being that which does not exist.*

God creates in the same way the dead are given life. He calls things into being. For example, would one suggest that the resurrection of the dead is an evolutionary process, that the New Jerusalem, our heavenly home, will evolve, or that hell, the lake of fire, will evolve? Paul says the way God does things is to call them into existence, not help them to evolve.

Romans 8:20-22 *For the creation was subjected to futility ... in hope that the creation itself also will be set free from its slavery ...*

Creation is subjected to futility, not evolving into something more able to survive. It’s suffering and dying, not evolving and improving.

Revelation 4:11 *“Worthy are You, our Lord and our God, to receive glory and honor and power; for You created all things, and because of Your will they existed, and were created.*

The effect (and I suspect the purpose) of promoting the theory of evolution is to rob glory from God. Why would we assume such a thing is compatible with the Bible?

The Bible and Darwinian evolution cannot both be true.