

Evolution Vs. Intelligent Design

Chuck Colson writes,

“President Bush sent reporters into a tizzy this week by saying that he thought schools ought to teach both evolution and intelligent design. Students ought to hear both theories, he said, so they ‘can understand what the debate is about.’”¹

“Democratic Congressman Barney Frank of Massachusetts told *The Washington Post* that the president's remarks are "further indication that a fundamentalist right has really taken over much of the Republican Party."

And noting Bush's Ivy League background, the liberal lawmaker added: "People might cite George Bush as proof that you can be totally impervious to the effects of Harvard and Yale education." And the executive director Americans United for Separation of Church and State, Barry Lynn, called the president's comments "irresponsible," suggesting they demonstrate a "low level of understanding of science."

The president, Lynn stated, "doesn't understand that one is a religious viewpoint and one is a scientific viewpoint." Even one conservative senator -- Republican Rick Santorum of Pennsylvania -- has put himself at odds with President Bush on the subject.

Santorum says intelligent design lacks scientific credibility and should not be taught in science classes.”²

Regardless of your like or dislike of President Bush, this issue of teaching intelligent design sure has caused a lot of flurry! Is there a solid case for the theory of intelligent design? Is evolution a “Theory in Crisis” as scientist and agnostic Michael Denton purports in his book entitled such, or is the theory of Intelligent Design simply a right-winged conspiracy to bring the Bible back into the classrooms? What are the moral implications of evolution vs. the belief in a God who created the universe?

This writing is broken into 3 main portions:

1. The commonly stated evidence for the theory of evolution and an analysis of that evidence.
2. The evidence for intelligent design
3. Moral implications of each belief system and how the Bible weighs in on this debate.

The Leap of Faith of Darwinism

There are at least six leaps of faith that have to be taken to believe in Darwinism as a theory of origins based on our current understanding of science:

1. Nothing produces everything
2. Non-life produces life

¹ Chuck Colson, Breakpoint, August 4th, 2005

² Jody Brown, Agape Press, August 4th, 2005

3. Randomness produces fine-tuning
4. Chaos produces information
5. Unconsciousness produces consciousness
6. Non-reason produces reason

Over the last century, what have been the most common arguments for the general theory of evolution?

Images of Evolution: Primary Evidence in Textbooks

1. Stanley Miller and Amino Acids

In 1953 Stanley Miller successfully reproduced amino acids from a nitrogen environment. Journalists proclaimed it as evidence of how the first cell could have been formed. Since then scientists have rejected Miller's conclusions: There is no evidence that a nitrogen atmosphere ever existed on earth- without such an atmosphere, amino acids never could have been formed. ³

2. Darwin's Tree of Life

Remember in your high school Biology textbooks the pictures of Darwin's tree of life- how every creature gradually evolved from a lower life form, going back to a single-celled organism? Since then archaeologists have been amazed to determine that virtually all life (or all life) appeared suddenly in what was called the "Cambrian Explosion"- in one layer of soil fossils demonstrate that all of life suddenly appeared. This contradicts the theory of evolution that, if true, would demonstrate a gradual increase in complexity of life from single-celled organisms to highly evolved organisms.

3. Ernst Haeckel's Embryo Drawings

Remember the convincing pictures in your high school Biology books comparing embryos of several mammals and showing how close they were in development? Embryologist Johnathan Wells stated, "The early stages were faked" ⁴ Outspoken evolutionist Stephen Gould said that the use of these pictures today in Biology textbooks is "the academic equivalent of murder" ⁵

4. Missing Links: Dinos and Birds

There have been numerous reports of missing links between dinosaurs and birds. When I'm out preaching on the streets and ask people for evidence for evolution, this is the most common evidence given. In a National Geographic magazine article in November 1999 by Christopher Sloan entitled, "Feathers for T.Rex?"

³ John Cohen, "Novel Center Seeks to Add Spark to Origins of Life," Science 270 (1995), 1925-26.

⁴ Interview with Jonathin Wells, The Case for a Creator, p. 48

⁵ Steven Gould, Natural History, 3/02

He quotes Stephen Czerkas, "It's a missing link between terrestrial dinosaurs and birds that could fly." "This fossil is perhaps the best evidence since Archaeopteryx that birds did, in fact, evolve from certain types of dinosaurs." The news spread like wildfire- Time and other magazines for years afterwards reported this information. Over 100,000 people saw the bones of this "missing link" on display at a prominent museum. Evolutionist Storrs Olson on November 1st, 1999 sharply rebuked Sloan, "With the publication of "Feathers for T.rex?" by Christopher P. Sloan in its November issue, National Geographic has reached an all-time low for engaging in sensationalistic, unsubstantiated, tabloid journalism." USA Today printed an article, "The 'Missing Link' that wasn't- A bird fossil is hailed as a major find until red-faced scientists discover it was doctored." ⁶ The article states, "It appears now, after several months of suspicion and consternation, that this "true missing link in the complex chain between dinosaurs and birds" somehow sprouted its remarkable tail not 120 million years ago, but only shortly before being smuggled out of China...And, just as the plot thickens, scientists in China have told USA TODAY that they have discovered yet another faked tail- this one added by an entrepreneurial Chinese farmer to a flying pterosaur. That one appears to have fooled another group of scientists as well as the editors of the British journal *Nature*" (this journal is equal in stature in Britain as our *Scientific American* is here).

Evolutionary Biologist Alan Feduccia (UNC) said in Discover Magazine, "Archaeoraptor is just the tip of the iceberg. There are scores of fake fossils out there.... these fossil forgeries have been sold on the black market for years now, for huge sums of money." ⁷

Agnostic Michael Denton stated, "The universal experience of paleontology...is that while the rocks have continually yielded new and exciting and even bizarre forms of life...what they have never yielded is any of Darwin's myriads of transitional forms" ⁸

5. Ape Men

Human evolution is the premiere icon of Darwin's racist theory. His first book's full title was "On the Origin of the Species or the Preservation of Favored Races by Means of Natural Selection." The textbook in question in the Scopes trial was 'Hunter's Civic Biology,' which fit squarely with white supremacism. Darwin, along with most evolutionists until the 1960s, believed the most favored race was the white race. ⁹

Surely you've seen a progression of apes to humans in textbooks. Evolutionists are desperate to have a chain of fossils to support their belief and have fallen for

⁶ USA Today article written by Tim Friend, Volume 18, No. 98

⁷ Discover, "Plucking Apart the Dino Birds", 2/03

⁸ Michael Denton, Evolution, A Theory in Crisis, 1986, p. 162

⁹ www.answersingenesis.org/home/area/OneBlood/index.asp

some big misinterpretations, frauds, and misconstructions over the years.

Nebraska Man was a pig's tooth, but before the mistake was discovered, an ape-man family had been portrayed around a campfire!

Pitldown Man was a deliberate fraud that connected a modern ape jaw with a modern human skull. The fraud went undetected for decades until the perpetrator confessed.

Neanderthal Man was proclaimed to be a human with a disease by the first qualified person to study the first specimen. Since then, evolutionists have tried to portray 'him' as an intermediate by giving him a stooped, ape-like reconstruction. Only recently, as evidence has begun to pour in proving his humanity, has Neanderthal Man, like **Cro Magnon Man**, been 'rehabilitated.' Neanderthals had jewelry, ritual burial, a bone flute, chain-mail armor, controlled use of fire, and many other artifacts that show 'he' was no dummy. Fossils clearly show that he and *Homo erectus* mated together and with *Homo sapiens*, proving that everything on our side of the fence is one smart species, and is nearly identical below the neck.¹⁰

Lucy (*Australopithecus afarensis*) is the most famous and only current 'missing link.' Fossils show clearly 'she' was a tree-swinging, knuckle-walker with an ape head. Museums currently show 'her' with human hands, feet and breasts as well as a human expression on a near human head. Some evolutionists have already stated, "The australopithecines are rapidly sinking back to the status of peculiarly specialized apes."¹¹

What about those dates? Let's ask **Rhodesian Man**. When he was first discovered in 1921, he was given a date of 11,000 years old because the fossils looked relatively fresh. By 1962, he had aged to 40,000 years. In 1973, he had a big birthday celebrating his 125,000th year. In 1999, he had aged to a whopping 300,000 - 400,000 years of age, but no reason was given for such an elevated senior status. Why did he age so fast? Because above the neck, he looks more 'apish' than Neanderthal did, yet he is 'modern' below the neck. His fossils were found in the bottom of a mine and he appears to have died from a gunshot wound to the head.¹²

Because no chain linking us to apes exists, evolutionists have claimed that the chimp genome is approximately 94%, 96%, 97%, 98.8%, 99.1% and 99.4% similar to the human genome. Each time it was also claimed that the human genome had been successfully completely mapped. In reality, the chimp genome is 12% bigger than the human genome, has not been fully mapped, and 'non-

¹⁰ Lubenow, Marvin, *Bones of Contention*, Baker Books, Grand Rapids, Michigan, 2004.

¹¹ Matt Cartmill, David Pilbeam, and Glynn Isaac, "One Hundred Years of Paleoanthropology," *American Scientist* 74, (July-august 1986): 419.

¹² Lubenow, 163-164.

coding' or 'Junk' DNA is left out of the comparison because it is poorly understood ¹³, leaving only about 1-5% of the genome for a comparison. Leading geneticist John Mattick has said, "the failure to recognize the implications of the non-coding DNA will go down as the biggest mistake in the history of molecular biology." ¹⁴

How do evolutionary theories currently stand? According to one evolutionist, "The once-popular fresco showing a single file of marching hominids becoming ever more vertical, tall, and hairless now appears to be a fiction." ¹⁵

Intelligent Design: Six Basic Evidences

1. Astronomy: the Big Bang

Agnostic Physicist Stephen Hawking wrote, "Almost everyone now believes that the universe, and time itself, had a beginning at the Big Bang." When this was discovered last century, it shook up the religious beliefs of many scientists, including Albert Einstein. Einstein went from atheist/agnostic to a believer in the existence of God. He said, "I see a pattern, but my imagination cannot picture the Maker of the pattern. I see a clock, but I cannot envision the clockmaker. The human mind is unable to conceive of the four dimensions, so how can it conceive of a God, before whom a thousand years and a thousand dimensions are as one."¹⁶ Allan Rex Sandage is considered by many to be the greatest observational cosmologist of our time- he was winner of a Nobel Prize and was a Jewish atheist/agnostic. In 1985 at a conference on science and religion, he disclosed that he had become a Christian. "It was my science that drove me to the conclusion that the world is much more complicated than can be explained by science... It was only through the supernatural that I can understand the mystery of existence."¹⁷

Agnostic geophysicist Stephen Meyer was there at the conference and was astounded at what he heard scientists stating about intelligent design. He later became a Christian. He wrote, "Across a wide range of sciences, evidence has come to light in the last fifty years which...provides a robust case for theism. Only theism can provide an intellectually satisfying causal explanation for all of this evidence."¹⁸

Cosmologist and Nobel Prize winner Arno Penzias said about the Big Bang, "The best data we have are exactly what I would have predicted had I nothing to go on

¹³ Purdom, Georgia, Ph.D., If human and chimp DNA are so similar, why are there so many physical and mental differences between them? <http://www.answersingenesis.org/articles/am/v1/n2/human-and-chimp-dna> September 5, 2006.

¹⁴ Batten, Don, No Joy for Junkies <http://www.creationontheweb.com/content/view/1588/>

¹⁵ Hublin, J.J., *Nature* 403 (27 January 2000): 363.

¹⁶ The Expandable Quotable Einstein, p208

¹⁷ Newsweek, Sharon Begley, "Science Finds God", July 20, 1998)

¹⁸ Lee Stroebel, The Case for Creator, interview, p. 74

but the first five books of Moses, the Psalms and the Bible as a whole.”¹⁹

What was it about Cosmology that stirred these scientists to go from atheists/agnostics to believers in the existence of God? It can be summed up by the theory, “Kalam Cosmological Argument” that states, “Everything that begins to exist has a cause.” The universe began to exist, so it must have a cause- a cause that is outside of the universe- outside of our material universe- thus by definition: God!

Atheist Kai Nielsen struggled with the origins of the universe, “suppose you suddenly hear a loud bang...and you ask me, ‘what made that bang? And I reply, ‘Nothing, it just happened.’ You would not accept that.”²⁰ I hope his struggle leads him to backslide from his atheism. Atheist Quentin Smith struggled as well “[that] we came from nothing, by nothing, and for nothing seems intuitively absurd.”

Anthony Flew, once the world's leading philosopher of atheism, has renounced his life-long beliefs and has become, as he puts it, a deist. He now believes an intelligent designer designed the universe, though he says he cannot know God yet.²¹ He’s moving in the right direction!

2. **Physics: Fine Tuned to Life**

Atheist Physicist become Christian Patrick Glynn wrote, “All the seemingly arbitrary and unrelated constants in physics have one strange thing in common- these are precisely the values you need if you want to have a universe capable of producing life.”²² Theoretical and once agnostic molecular biophysicist Paul Davies wrote, “The impression of design is overwhelming”²³ Physicist Stephen Meyer wrote, “There are more than thirty separate physical or cosmological parameters that require precise calibration in order to produce a life-sustaining universe.”²⁴ Physicist Collins said²⁵ the cosmological constant is fine tuned to 1×10^{53} . Physicists marvel at how the gravitational constants, strong and weak nuclear forces and other constants are fine-tuned to both create a universe and to create life and how impossible it would be for this to happen randomly- there simply had to be a Designer behind the incredible design.

3. **Astronomy**

¹⁹ (NY Times 3/12/78 “Malcolm W. Browne, “Clues to Universe Origin Expected”)

²⁰ Reason & Practice 1971, p 48

²¹ Chuck Colson “On Solid Ground: Evolution versus Intelligent Design, August 4, 2005

²² “The Making and Unmaking of an Atheist” in God: the Evidence, (Rocklin, DA: Forum, 1997), p. 22)

²³ Paul Davies, The Cosmic Blueprint (New York: Simon & Schuster, 1988, p. 203

²⁴ Science and Evidence for Design in the Universe, 2000, p. 60

²⁵ Lee Stroebel, The Case for a Creator, p. 133

I remember as a young evolutionist enjoying Carl Sagan talk about “billions and billions” of galaxies and about the existence of life on many other planets. Sagan must not have known back then what scientists have found out today: the Earth’s location, size, composition, atmosphere, temperature, circular orbit, internal dynamics and all of the feedback mechanisms such as the oxygen or carbon cycle and many other parameters are extremely fine-tuned. In addition, our solar system is amazingly adapted to life: the Milky Way’s size, type of galaxy (spiral) and the precise location of our earth, along with the locations and sizes of Jupiter, Mars, the Sun and the moon all result in life existing on the earth- small changes in many of these variables would result in the impossibility of life on earth due to affecting things like the earth’s tilt, tides, temperature, protection against asteroids and atmosphere and radiation, to name a few. John O’Keefe who was called “the godfather of astrogeology” based on mathematical probabilities stated, “only one planet in the universe is likely to bear intelligent life.”²⁶

4. **Biochemistry**

Bruce Alberts, Biochemist and president of the National Academy of Sciences, wrote, “The entire cell can be viewed as a factory that contains an elaborate network of interlocking assembly lines, each of which is composed of a set of large protein machines.”²⁷

That statement speaks to me more than just about any other statement- I’m an engineer in a factory of 2200 people. I look at the complexity in our factory- it is amazingly complex, but doesn’t hold a candle to the complexity of the simplest single-celled organism. In addition, we have successfully built factories and sent people to the moon, but we’ve never created a single-celled organism! I attempt to envision how it would be possible for our factory to operate without engineers, maintenance, production, material control, quality control, machining, sub-assembly and assembly- all without a single person directing the activities or beginning the activities in the first place, and for the factory to reproduce itself. It’s impossible to conceive of, yet we would willingly choose to believe that though man couldn’t even do such a task that somehow random chance could- it boggles me to think about it!

Darwin himself gave us a litmus test of how to disprove his general theory of evolution: “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.”²⁸ So let’s see what scientists have been able to conclude in this regard.

Microbiologist James Shapiro of the University of Chicago wrote, “There are no detailed Darwinian accounts for the evolution of ANY fundamental biochemical

²⁶ Robert Yastrow, *God and the Astronomers*, 1992, p. 122

²⁷ Bruce Alberts, “The Cell as a Collection of Protein Machines,” *Cell* 92 (February 8, 1998)

²⁸ Charles Darwin, *Origin of Species*, p. 154

or cellular system, only a variety of wishful speculations.”²⁹ One scientist interviewed stated that even if we took a living cell and punctured the cell wall and allowed the contents of the cell to seep out into an aqueous salt solution, that it would be impossible to put it all back together again. As he put it, “Humpty dumpty can’t be put back together again.”³⁰ Energy simply can’t climb uphill, as the 2nd Law of Thermodynamics states.

I’m really curious about Charles Darwin- did he truly believe in his own theory? He wrote, “To suppose that the eye...could have been formed by natural selection, seems, I freely confess, absurd in the highest degree.”³¹ On the last page of *Origin of Species* we read this interesting summary of his theory, “Thus, from the war of nature, from famine and death, the most exalted object which we are capable of conceiving, namely, the production of the higher animals, directly follows. There is a grandeur in this view of life, with its several powers, having been originally breathed by the Creator into a few forms or into one; and that, whilst this planet has gone cycling on according to the fixed law of gravity, from so simple a beginning endless forms most beautiful and most wonderful have been, and are being evolved.”³² He believed in a Creator, yet his theory did much to remove in many people’s minds the need for a Creator, replaced by a theory of “grandeur” of random chance and natural selection!

5. DNA and Origin of Life

Not only energy, but also information can’t climb uphill. When the boss asks you to add a new subroutine to your computer program, it simply won’t happen without intelligent input. Evolutionist and Nobel prize winner Francis Crick who discovered DNA even admitted, “An honest man, armed with all the knowledge available to us now, could only state that in some sense, the origin of life appears at the moment to be almost a miracle, so many are the conditions which would have had to have been satisfied to get it going.”³³ George Sim Johnson wrote, “Human DNA contains more organized information than the *Encyclopedia Britannica*. If the full text of the encyclopedia were to arrive in computer code from outer space, most people would regard this as proof of the existence of extraterrestrial intelligence. But when seen in nature, it is explained as the workings of random forces.”³⁴

Truly our bodies are a work of art with over 30,000 genes and 20,500 different proteins, and scientists haven’t been able to come up with a valid step by step mechanism for evolving even one of these proteins! Skeptic turned believer in the existence of God, Biology Professor Dean Kenyon had to repudiate the

²⁹ James Shipiro, “In the Details...What?” *National Review* 9/16/96)

³⁰ *The Case for a Creator*, p. 39

³¹ Charles Darwin, *Origin of Species*, p. 133

³² Charles Darwin, *Origin of Species*, p. 374

³³ *Life Itself*, 1981, p. 88

³⁴ (George Sim Johnson “Did Darwin Get it Right?” *Wall Street Journal*, 10/15/99)

conclusions of his own book on the chemical origin of life, “This new realm of molecular genetics [is] where we see the most compelling evidence of design on the Earth”³⁵ A typical protein requires 1200 to 2000 bases, all left-handed, in a set sequence. Even to create the simplest protein of 75 bases in a soup of building blocks of Adenine, Guanine, Cytosine and Thiamine and their right hand equivalents would have the mathematical odds: 1 x 10¹²⁵ for forming such a protein by random chance.³⁶ Even the simplest cell needs three hundred different proteins.³⁷ Even Bill Gates, upon a cursory reading of the complexity of DNA wrote, “DNA is like a software program, only much more complex than anything we’ve ever devised.”³⁸

It is imperative that we understand what all scientists understand about evolution: if accepted as a true theory, it only explains how organisms could evolve by natural selection. It simply cannot explain how the first organism got there in the first place. Stephen Meyer stated that DNA stores far more information in a smaller space than the most advanced supercomputer on the planet.³⁹

6. Consciousness

5 continues after person’s brain has stopped functioning. Once skeptical neuropsychiatrist Sam Parnia wrote that scientific findings “would support the view that mind, ‘consciousness,’ or the ‘soul’ is a separate entity from the brain.”⁴⁰ This study researched 63 heart attack victims who were declared clinically dead and were later revived and interviewed. Further evidence on epilepsy patients buttressed this conclusion.

Scientific Conclusion: from a scientific viewpoint, the Theory of Evolution is floundering- like the dinosaurs, it, too appears to be on the brink of extinction. The Theory of Intelligent Design offers strong evidence for the origins of the universe and of life.

Conspiracy!

When confronted with all this evidence, I’ve had several evolutionists cry “foul!” “What? Are you saying that there is a conspiracy going on- that most scientists and journalists are purposely suppressing the truth?” Michael Behe, Biochemist and author of “Darwin’s Black Box” addresses this issue. There is tremendous pressure in academia not to rock the boat on the theory of evolution. Those who do are shunned and some have even lost their prestigious science positions by speaking out or publishing such

³⁵ www.illustramedia.com

³⁶ Lee Stroebel, *ibid*, quoting Biochemist Stephen Meyer, p. 229

³⁷ Lee Stroebel, *ibid*, quoting Biochemist Stephen Meyer, p. 229

³⁸ Lee Stroebel, *ibid*, p. 225

³⁹ *ibid*, p. 244

⁴⁰ Sam Parnia, “Near Death Experiences in Cardiac Arrest and the Mystery of Consciousness,” (See Lee Stroebel, *ibid*, p. 250)

articles. Publications such as *Nature* or *Scientific American* face the same pressures. So the short answer to the conspiracy theory? Yes- there is a conspiracy, and yes, there is a spiritual force behind it. As law professor Phillip Johnson, author of the breakthrough critique of evolution *Darwin on Trail* wrote, “the whole point of Darwinism is to show that there is no need for a supernatural Creator, because nature can do the creating by itself.”⁴¹

Darwinism is portrayed as a science, however it is better described as a philosophy or a religion. I used to be a Darwinist and it fit nicely with my beliefs about life. As Lee Stroebel put it when he was an atheist: if Darwinism is true, then God is out of a job.⁴² If God doesn't exist, then the concept of sin is outdated; the idea of a Judgment Day, of ultimate justice and a punishment in a place called hell is irrelevant and I can choose to live my life any way I deem fit. I should thus be most concerned about how to maximize my pleasure before I die. Jesus told a parable of the fool who said, “Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry.’ But God said to him, ‘You fool! This very night your life will be demanded from you.’”⁴³ Philosopher Daniel Dennet has observed: “Darwinism is a “universal acid” that “eats through just about every traditional concept and leaves in its wake a revolutionized worldview.”⁴⁴ Atheist Bertrand Russell stated that science had presented us with a world that was “purposeless” and “void of meaning”⁴⁵ Evolution leaves us in a moral vacuum.

God Weighs in on Evolution

While we're busy believing in theories that deny God's existence, God has a lot to say about all our foolishness- foolishness that applies not just to the atheist and agnostic, but foolishness we're all born into: “The fool says in his heart, ‘there is no God.’ They are corrupt, their deeds are vile; there is no one who does good [that's all of us]. The Lord looks down from heaven on the sons of men to see if there are any who understand, any who seek God. All have turned aside, they have together become corrupt; there is no one who does good, not even one.”⁴⁶ Those are harsh words from your Creator about you and me- our state prior to redemption that is a gift from God.

God also explains why we struggle so much with acknowledging His authority in our lives as our Lord and Savior, “The wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of men who *suppress the truth by their wickedness*, since *what may be known about God is plain to them*, because *God has made it plain to them*. For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities- His eternal power and divine nature- have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that *men are without excuse*. For although they knew [about] God, they neither glorified Him as

⁴¹ Phillip E. Johnson, quoted in *World* (July/August 2002)

⁴² Lee Stroebel, *The Case for a Creator*

⁴³ Luke 12:19

⁴⁴ Quoted in: Phillip E. Johnson, “The Intelligent Design Movement: Challenging the Modernist Monopoly on Science,” in: William A. Dembski and James M. Kushiner, editors, *Signs of Intelligence*, 34.

⁴⁵ Bertrand Russell, *Why I am Not a Christian*, p. 106

⁴⁶ Psalm 14:1-3

God nor gave thanks to Him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened. Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images made to look like mortal man and birds and animals and reptiles. Therefore *God gave them over in the sinful desires of their hearts* to sexual impurity for the degrading of their bodies with one another. *They exchanged the truth of God for a lie*, and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator-who is forever praised, Amen.”⁴⁷

In our sophistication today, we don't make physical idols of reptiles or birds, but we do make idols of theories on how such reptiles and birds evolved, which rob God of all glory and replace that glory with an idol: ourselves. We become the center of our universe and the end result is being given over to immorality as we heap sin upon unrepentant sin, storing up God's wrath that will be revealed on the Day of Judgment. Without reading about intelligent design a six year old child could tell you there's a God. Point to any building and you know that there's an architect and a builder. Point to any painting and you know there's a painter. Point to creation and you know there's a Creator. To say otherwise is not only an act of ignorance but as the scripture says, is a suppression of the truth with a specific motive: to deny sin and the resulting judgment to come.

Such was my life as an evolutionist prior to becoming a Christian. As a teenager a friend invited me to a youth group- I'd never been to church, but when he told me there were cute girls and sports there, that got my attention. And he was right- there were cute girls and sports there. What I hadn't bargained for was teaching about God. As I heard the Bible taught for three months I scoffed at the idea of a God, but couldn't help escaping the truth that I was hearing that seared into my heart- truth from the pulpit and truth in the changed lives of young Christians around me. I came to believe that Jesus Christ was who He said He was- the Lord and my Savior, and that I had one need: forgiveness of sins.

You may be smirking to yourself right now, “Forgiveness of sins? I don't need that- I'm ok.” I urge you to search your conscience- have you violated your own conscience? Have you ever lied? Ever stolen (the value is insignificant), ever dishonored your mother and father? Ever used God's name as a cuss-word? Ever hated anyone or slandered, gossiped or backstabbed someone? (Jesus called that “murder” of the heart and/or the lips). Have you ever lusted after someone? (Jesus called that adultery of the heart.) Have you ever put anything above obedience to God? Jesus said this was the greatest commandment, to “love the Lord with all your heart, soul, mind and strength.” We all have violated that commandment and will have to face our Maker on Judgment Day- the One who created us in His own image, yet we have fallen from that image. In each of us is the knowledge that there is a perfect standard- it's a bit fuzzy to us what that perfect standard is at times, but we've all felt the guilt come over us when we've violated our own consciences, even though they've been dulled by the dirt of this world. We all know that death awaits us, and that there is such a thing as justice and that God is the owner of it- and we will have to face Him on that day. The same God who in unsearchable wisdom created DNA and the universe knows your every thought, motive and deed, and

⁴⁷ Romans 1:18-25

will judge you accordingly on Judgment Day. Will you be innocent or guilty of violating His commands that He has already placed on your heart? If you receive due justice, will you deserve eternal life with Him or hell apart from Him?

God in His great mercy and love sent His Son to die on the cross in our place. The innocent One willingly paid the price for us, the guilty ones. If you truly repent of your sin from your heart and place your trust in Jesus, you will be saved. Imagine you're in an airplane that is going down. You put on a parachute and jump from the plane. You've trusted in that parachute to save you. Likewise, this world is "going down". Put on the Lord Jesus Christ and escape the judgment to come.

In Christ's Love,

Mike Porter

Acknowledgements & Further Readings

Most quotes from this writing come from Lee Stroebel, “The Case for a Creator”, Zondervan, 2004- a highly recommended read. Also recommended, Michael Behe, “Darwin’s Black Box”, Agnostic Michael Denton’s, “Evolution, a Theory in Crisis” and William Dembski, “Intelligent Design The Bridge Between Science & Theology”