

## **284 So did God use evolution?**

**(Suggested: Copy, paste and read in Subfolder: Trustworthy Bible)**

In last week's Reflection, "So what anyway?" we saw that God-denying, naturalistic beliefs have become so popular because "Science" apparently renders a Creator God unnecessary; (as the prominent atheist Professor Richard Dawkins puts it, "Evolution gives atheism intellectual respectability"). But we also established something else which makes that respectability rather short-lived! - that the origin of this universe and its subsequent supposed evolutionary history are both scientifically impossible to explain without the existence of God as Creator. The reality is that we cannot have "got here" without a God: so if we really are here via evolution, as millions of Christians have been taught so as to "keep God in the picture", this can only be because God the Creator used evolution as His method of creation. But did He?

We start with some basic truths from Genesis Chapters 1 and 2, providing "a lamp to our feet and a light to our path" (Psalm 119.105). We read repeatedly, "And God said ... and it was so" (egs., 1.3,6,7,9,11,14,15,20,24,26,30); and, "and God saw that it was good" (egs., 1.10,12,18,21,25,31); and, "after his/their kind" (egs., 1.11,12,12,21,21,24,24,25,25). We read that wonderful, almost throwaway aside, "He made the stars also" (1.16). We read of man, male and female, uniquely made in God's image and set over His creation as stewards (1.26-30 and 2.4-25). We read that after six days, "the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them" (2.1), and that God rested on the seventh day (2.2-3 / and eg., Exodus 20.11 and 31.17). Is there the slightest hint in these chapters of evolution?? No! Rather, as Darwin very well knew, Darwinism directly contradicts point after point in this glorious account of our creation, an account that is wholly unparalleled in world literature. How clearer could God have been concerning our origins?

Next, we find over 100 direct references to Genesis Chapters 1 – 11 in the New Testament alone, (plus a further 100 or so covering Genesis Chapters 12 – 50). Early Genesis is seen to be the wholly dependable foundation on which the rest of God's Word is built.

A few examples from the many available must suffice. Jesus accepts the literal truth of "male and female" (Genesis 1.26-27 / Mark 10.6-7); of cleaving and one flesh (2.24 / Matthew 19.5 and Mark 10.8); of the "father of lying" (3.4 / John 8.44); of Abel (4.4 / Matthew 23.35); of Noah and the Flood (6.5,12-13 and 7.11,17-24 / Matthew 24.37-39). We also have the two extraordinary generations lists, in Matthew 1 from Abraham to Jesus through Joseph's line, and in Luke 3 from Jesus to Adam through Mary's line, tying in with the lists in Genesis 5, 10 and 11. Just what are these if they are not straight historical records?? But if God used evolution, Genesis 1-11 has to be seen as non-factual and these New Testament references are worthless. Yet theistic evolutionists tend to shrug their shoulders saying that none of this matters. How wrong they are.

We now turn to God's character and the Gospel itself. Evolution is innately cruel and bloody, with struggle, violence and death at its heart. Is this method of creation remotely in line with the character of Almighty God who has graciously revealed Himself to us in His Word as our loving Creator, who seeks our love and fellowship in

return, and who has sacrificed His Son Jesus Christ to win us back? Can we imagine God the Father “messaging about” during creation trying to see what works, as He watches a host of partially-evolved objects eating each other? Such a notion is monstrous, even blasphemous.

And now to Romans 5.12 where the sequence is clear: Adam’s sin introduced sin into the world, and that sin produced universal spiritual and physical death. But if God used evolution as His method of creation, then death, due to the violence and bloodshed it involves, existed from the start, from long before Adam! Adam was thus only some evolved super-ape (who God decided to call Man), and as such he had nothing to do with the entrance of death into the world. This would make Romans 5.12, with all that flows from those words, simply not true. What sort of “God’s Word” is that?

But thanks be to God, those words are true. No-God evolution is nonsense scientifically, and we have exposed it as such before we ever got on to the Bible; and God-wrought theistic evolution is nonsense scripturally, because of God’s Word, character, deeds and Gospel. We have not evolved.

God “created the heavens and the earth”, and creation was initially “very good”. It isn’t “very good” now because of sin, but through the Person and work of Christ, who is the seed of the woman and the second Adam (Genesis 3.15 / I Corinthians 15.45-47), it is set to become “very good” once again (eg., Acts 3.21 / I Corinthians 15.20-28 / Revelation 21.1-6).

Truly, “Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power; for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created” (Revelation 4.11). O praise ye the Lord!

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