

Discipleship:
An
Introduction to
Systematic Theology and
Apologetics

The Doctrines of Creation:

The Heights Church April 24, 2016

Romans 1:19-20

For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse.

We believe that the Bible is the Word of God, fully inspired and without error in the original manuscripts, written under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, and that it has supreme authority in all matters of faith and conduct. Heights Church Affirmation of Faith.

Basic Vertebrate Taxonomy Review

1. Kingdom: (plants, **animals**)
2. Phylum: (invertebrates, **vertebrates**)
3. Class: (fish, amphibian, reptiles, birds, **mammals**)
4. Order: (**carnivores**, primates, rodents, even/odd toed ungulates, etc.)
5. Family: (**canines**, felines, bears, raccoons, weasels, etc.)
6. Genus: (**foxes**, dogs, wolves, coyotes, jackals)
7. Species: (**red fox**, grey fox, arctic fox etc.)

Evolution Timeline Review

- **13.77 bya (billion years ago) Big Bang**
- **4.5 bya Earth is formed**
- **570 mya sudden explosion of sea invertebrates**
- **525 mya first vertebrates (fish) 32,900 DS (described species)**
- **370 mya first amphibians 7300 DS**
- **325 mya first reptiles (first dinosaurs 250 mya) 10,000 DS**
- **150 mya first birds 10,400 DS**
- **65 mya dinosaur extinction; age of mammals begins 5,500 DS**
- **200,000 ya Neanderthal**
- **30,000-40,000 ya homo sapiens (Cro-Magnon)**
- **10,000 ya homo sapien sapiens**

Science (Scientific Method) Review

Acquire sufficient applicable data for the phenomenon being studied.



Form a hypothesis to explain the data.



Prove the hypothesis is true by consistent, empirical, independent experimental results.

Evolution vs Genesis 1:3 - 31

Ten problems with evolution.

1. Evolution cannot provide any answer to how life began because natural selection can only operate once there are living organisms to evolve!
2. The abundance of transitional life forms that Darwin predicted would be found in the fossil record are conspicuously absent. According to Darwin, **“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.”**
3. By the 1970’s, available time according to the “big bang” was not sufficient for the Darwinian forces to produce the observed diversity of life.

Evolution vs Genesis 1:3 - 31

Ten problems with evolution.

4. By the 1970's mathematical models seemed to indicate that random undirected processes could not produce the complexity necessary for life to begin regardless of the available time.
5. Irreducible Complexity: *Darwin's Black Box* by Michael Behe 1996 (mouse trap concept)
6. Intelligent Design (Nature appears to have been created)
Francis Crick (1916-2004) "Biologists must constantly keep in mind that what they see was not designed, but rather evolved."
Points to a "creator" (Romans 1) but not the triune Biblical God.

Evolution vs Genesis 1:3 - 31

Ten problems with evolution.

7. The reproduction problem: Since “missing links” are not present in the fossil record, but rather abrupt transitions, how do sufficient numbers of males and females arise with all the attributes of a new order? and in a small enough space and at the same time to assure a sustained reproduction of the new order?

8. Chance is not a causal force but a mathematical way to judge whether or not something is happening randomly or has a cause.

Evolution vs Genesis 1:3 - 31

Ten problems with evolution.

9. *The Edge of Evolution* by Michael Behe 2008

- Natural Selection is limited somewhere between order and species **not classes i.e. fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds, mammals**

10. Similar “parts” does not imply evolution. Humans regularly use the same parts to create many different things.

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