

Is Evolution Scientific?

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The average person in the world would probably answer yes to the question, “Is evolution scientific?” Why would they answer yes to such a question? Probably because it is taught as fact and that the majority of “scientist” believe and teach it to be so. I remember when I was in middle school or what would be the 6th, 7th and 8th grades back in the 70’s. I had this science teacher who taught evolution as a fact of science. It was clearly taught in our science books as a matter of fact. I am sure that many young people including myself were influenced by that science teacher to believe that evolution was scientific. It has been said that if you say something often enough and long enough the public will come to believe it as truth. How true that is when it comes to Evolution. Evolution has been said often enough and long enough that most people believe it to be true. In my opinion most people believe that science has proven evolution to be a fact. Note this line of thinking:

The May 1, 2001 edition of the Cleveland (TN) Daily Banner on page 9 carried an article entitled “New look into universe supports the ‘big bang.’” The first paragraph of the article consisted of one sentence: Key elements of theories about how the universe expanded and developed after the Big Bang have been confirmed by data from high-flying balloons and from instruments operating in Antarctica, scientist say (Campbell).

What does the author of the article in the May 1, 2001 edition of the Cleveland (TN) Daily Banner assume? He assumes that the “Big Bang” theory is a fact. At least he speaks of it as if it were a given fact. Why? Because scientist say so. We need to beware when we read such statements as “scientist say.” Not all scientists say such things. Not all scientists promote evolution. Not all scientists believe that evolution is scientific. But let’s examine the question “Is evolution scientific?” and see if it is so. The word “scientific” means “1. Of, discovered by, derived from, or used in science. 2. Agreeing with or using the principles or methods of science; systematic, exact.” (Funk 718). Has scientist discovered evolution, as far as having evidence of fish changing to birds and monkeys changing to men and so forth? I remember back in middle school with my science teacher and how he tried to show his students the scientific proof for evolution. He had this picture chart of a monkey changing into a man and on that chart was the different stages of the monkey finally evolving into a man. Those were pretty pictures but where is the evidence for all those different stages? Back in 1856 scientist discovered what they called “Neanderthal Man.” Was this some type of half-man and half-monkey? No! Then there was the Cro-Magnon Man in 1868. Was this some type of half-man and half-monkey? No! Then there was the Piltdown Man in 1911. Was this some type of half-man and half-monkey? The Piltdown man was a dishonest assembly of human skull fragments together with the lower jaw of an orangutan. For some forty years it was perpetrated upon the scientific world as half-man and half-money (Jackson 17). Then there is the

famous “Lucy.” Dr. Don Johanson’s in 1979 claimed that the skeleton of a fossil known as Lucy, dating from three million year ago, is indeed the long-missing ape/man and classified by Johanson as Afar Man. Albert Mehler in the Bible-Science Newsletter, March, 1980, p.7 says, “What has occurred is that Johanson, in his anxiety to be the finder of that long missing ape/man, consciously or unconsciously, has merged fossil bones of the two different creatures into one and, therefore, came up with an APE/MAN!!!”. I guess the most recent so-called discovery was back in 1999 of a bird-like fossil called “Archaeoraptor liaoningensis” (Jared Jackson). Was this some type of half-bird and half-dinosaur? NO! It did not consist of a single fossil but rather, it was an assembly of several fossils. The point of all this is that there have been no discoveries that prove the big changes needed for evolution to be true. Evolution is not scientific. Does evolution agree with the principles or methods of science? The scientific method consists of observation and experiment. Has evolution been observed and tested? Professor Whitten, Professor of Genetics at the University of Melbourne, in his 1980 Assembly Week address, state, “Biologists are simply naive when they talk about experiments designed to test the theory of evolution. It is not testable” (Thompson 45). We must understand that the scientific method is subject to certain limitations. Bert Thompson in the June 1981 issue of *Reason & Revelation* gives five limitations of the scientific method. Let me give the first two here for our consideration. (1) The scientific method is limited to what can be observed with the five senses. If something can be seen, heard, touched, smelled or tasted then science can deal with it otherwise forget it as far as science is concerned. (2) The scientific method is limited to the present. Quoting from Enno Wolthius he writes:

Science seeks to explain the behavior of that which is, and to check its explanation by means of experiments. But this experimental requirement can be met only in the present time. The past, and especially the beginning of things, lies beyond the grasp of this method, and so science can only speculate about the origin and history of the world (Enno Wolthius (1963), *Science, God & You* (Grand Rapids, MI: Baker)).

Is it scientific to say that evolution is true because there are certain structural similarities common to both human and animal forms? There are undeniable similarities in the skeletal features of the ape family and the human family. Does this prove that one is descended from the other? If it does then what do we do with the Australian duck-billed platypus? It has a bill, webbed feet, makes a nest, lays eggs and hatches them. It is thus similar to a bird. Yet, it has four feet, fur, a tail, teeth (when small), claws, and nurses its young. It is therefore similar to a mammal. According to the “comparative anatomy” argument, from which is it descended? Comparative anatomy doesn’t prove anything concerning evolution. It simply indicates there was a Designer behind the thing who fashioned living organisms after a common plan. After all, if living creatures are to inhabit the same earth and utilize the same elements, why shouldn’t they be similar in some ways? Is it scientific to say something came from nothing? Yet, if we believe in evolution that’s what we must say. The universe is here and therefore must be explained. Did it create itself from nothing? Now that’s real scientific, isn’t it? Something cannot come from nothing, but something exists; therefore something has always existed. The Bible teaches that that something is God (Genesis 1:1; John 1:1). Job wrote,

But ask now the beasts, and they shall teach thee; and the fowls of the air, and they shall tell thee: Or speak to the earth, and it shall teach thee: and the fishes of the sea shall declare unto thee. Who knoweth not in all these that the hand of the LORD

hath wrought this? In whose hand is the soul of every living thing, and the breath of all mankind (Job 12:7-10).

In conclusion I think Wayne Jackson says it best in his tract, *Evolution and Science*:

May we therefore conclude that the theory of evolution is un-scientific, unreasonable and downright incredible? Men believe it simply because they want to. The Bible contains the true origin of man. The intelligent person will address himself to this Book, ascertaining what his responsibility is and complying therewith.

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