

The Evolution Question

by Leonard White

While we do not wish to disparage true science, or the knowledge and achievements of the scientists of our generation, there are several facts that we would like to point out:

Firstly, it is not true that all scientists accept the theory of evolution as having been proven. Many (perhaps most) do -- for various reasons, but many do not. Much of the publicity that has been drawn to this issue recently is the result of speeches, articles, books, etc. by scientists who believe in creation and have the courage to say so. Groups like the Creation Research Society and the Institute for Creation Research (composed of scientists from many different fields) have raised a number of troubling questions for evolutionists. Debates have been conducted around the country (on college campuses and elsewhere) in which evolutionists have been soundly defeated -- even by their own reluctant admission at times.

Secondly, (contrary to the confident claims made by some evolutionists) evolution has not been proven! It cannot, from the very nature of the matter, ever be proved. It might be fair to state that creation has not been proven either, in the sense that we are now speaking. Neither can be demonstrated in the laboratory. They are both, from a scientific standpoint, hypotheses. Each has some merit, insofar as being able to explain certain known data. However, there is a vast difference between a theory (or hypothesis) and a proven fact! One evolutionist last week compared creationists to those who believe that the earth is flat and is the center of the universe. Such a statement is totally inaccurate and prejudicial. That the earth is spherical (or nearly so) can be proven, and has been. To deny this is to deny a known fact. This is most definitely not the case with the theory of evolution.

Thirdly, in connection with what has just been said, there are serious problems with the theory of evolution. Darwin admitted, in his book *The Origin of Species*, that there were questions left unanswered. Chapter VI is entitled "Difficulties of the Theory;" chapter X is "On the imperfection of the Geological Record." Today's evolutionists would have us believe that great strides have been made in the development of the theory since Darwin's day. However, many of these same problems and difficulties still remain. In October, 1980, a meeting was convened in Chicago consisting of 150 scientists specializing in evolutionary studies. This group included nearly all of the leading evolutionists in paleontology, population genetics, taxonomy and related fields. The purpose of this meeting was to address some of these inadequacies in the theory. Major changes seem to be called for in the explanation given for the mechanism of evolution. There is still no adequate explanation for the absence of transitional forms ("missing links") both in living organisms and the fossil record. To quote W.R. Thomasson (director of the Commonwealth Institute of Biological Control, Ottawa, Canada): "There is a great divergence of opinion among biologists, not only about the causes of evolution, but even about the actual process. This divergence does not permit any certain conclusion."

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