

Two Letters On The Subject Of Evolution

by Bill Crews

“The Advocate opinion critical of Kansas’ de-emphasis of macro evolution calls to mind the remarks of Berkeley law professor and author Philip Johnson: ‘A Chinese paleontologist lectures around the world saying that recent fossil finds in his country are inconsistent with the Darwinian theory of evolution. His reason: The major animal groups appear abruptly in the rocks over a relatively short time, rather than evolving gradually from a common ancestor as Darwin’s theory predicts.’ When this conclusion upsets American scientists, he wryly comments: ‘In China we can criticize Darwin but not the government. In America you can criticize the government but not Darwin!’

“Readers may be interested to know that since 1955 a disclaimer has appeared in the front of Alabama public school biology textbooks: ‘This textbook discusses evolution, a controversial theory some scientists present as a scientific explanation for the origin of living things, such as plants, animals and humans. No one was present when life first appeared on earth. Therefore, any statement about life’s origins should be considered as theory, not fact. The word “evolution” may refer to many types of change. Evolution describes changes that occur within a species This process is micro evolution, which can be observed and described as fact. Evolution may also refer to the change of one living thing to another, such as reptiles into birds. This process, called macro evolution, has never been observed and should be considered a theory. Evolution also refers to the unproven belief that random, undirected forces produced a world of living things. There are many unanswered questions about the origin of life which are not mentioned in your textbooks, including:

“(1) Why did the major groups of animals suddenly appear in the fossil record (known as the Cambrian Explosion)?

“(2) Why have no new major groups of living things appeared in the fossil record in a long time?

“(3) Why do major groups of plants and animals have no transitional forms in the fossil record?

“(4) How did you and all living things come to possess such a complete and complex set of “instructions” for building a living body?

“Study hard and keep an open mind. Someday you may contribute to the theories of how living things appeared on earth.

“If these are not scientifically supportable questions, why do they still appear in the texts? If they are scientifically supportable, why should macro evolution be taught as fact?

“In 1982 Dr. Lyall Watson wrote in *Science Digest*, ‘The fossils that decorate our family tree are so scarce that there are still more scientists than specimen. The remarkable fact is that all the physical evidence we have for human evolution can still be placed, with room to spare, inside a single coffin.’”
The letter was signed, “Judge Darrell White (retired).”

“You published two editorial articles that claim evolution is fact, and creation is political science. These missed the fundamental question and ignored two critical sciences: physics and chemistry. It is elementary to see how life forms change, but how did life begin?

“I’ve smashed atoms in a cyclotron and split subatomic particles in nuclear reactors while studying nuclear engineering. I spent three years converting matter into energy in naval nuclear reactors and furthering my understanding of subatomic matter in graduate school. While earning a master’s degree in chemical engineering, I studied atoms, molecules and polymers and have since worked in world-class production plants that use vast amounts of energy to convert elements

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