

Did God use Evolution?

Werner Gitt CLV 1993

Dr Gitt was the Director of the German Federal Institute of Physics. He wrote particularly for Christians who believe that God created the world through evolution, rather than in the miraculous manner outlined in Genesis One.

Scientific Questions

His 2nd chapter discusses the principles of scientific theory. Here are some of them.

- (1) Every theory rests on philosophical assumptions, which are unprovable.
- (2) Obviously these assumptions seem reasonable, but they are not absolute. Science does not rest on a rock!
- (3) A theory may be successful but not correct. It will survive as long as it is not shown to be false.
- (4) Experimentation is essential. A theory which cannot be falsified by experiment is not scientific. It is philosophy.
- (5) In contrast with (say) mathematics, the theorems of experimental science cannot be proved true. That's why Popper said, *We cannot know: we can only guess.*
- (6) A scientific theory must allow predictions.

What are the basic assumptions of evolution?

- (1) Evolution is taken for granted.
- (2) It is a universal principle.
- (3) 'Creator' and 'creation' are irrelevant terms.
- (4) The world is based on matter and on material principles.
- (5) There is no fundamental difference between the scientific laws governing the origin of the earth and those governing the origin of life.
- (6) Matter organises itself.
- (7) Genetic mutation and natural selection are the driving

forces of evolution.

- (8) There is no plan or purpose in evolution.
- (9) There are no time limits. Evolution can take as long as it wants.
- (10) The present is the key to the past.

Basic Assumptions of Creationism

By contrast:

- (1) The basic principle of creation is taken for granted. The present does not allow to evaluate the past. Adam was created a grown man. The stars were immediately visible.
- (2) Creation is a universal principle.
- (3) The Creator exists. He is the God of the Bible.
- (4) God created the universe *ex nihilo*, from nothing. (The universe certainly had a beginning!)
- (5) There is a basic difference between the creation of the world and scientific laws which are not observed in the maintenance of the world..
- (6) God's creative activities cannot be explained in terms of natural laws. For example, the law of conservation says that matter can neither be created nor destroyed. Yet Genesis 1:1...!
- (7) The Bible reveals the nature of the Creator and Creation, cf. Ps.33:6; John 1:1-4; Jer.10:2; Ps.104:24; Gen.1:26; Heb.11:3, &c.
- (8) Nature has clearly been designed by a Designer. See Ps.19:1-2; Rom.1:21.
- (9) Genesis teaches us that the universe had a definite beginning.
- (10) The past is the key to the present. Human sin and social chaos can be traced to the sin of Adam (Gen.3).
- (11) The present geological shape of the earth was caused by the Genesis Flood.

Creation research

Uses scientific facts, but

builds on statements of the Bible. The facts of nature can be explained by application of Scripture but not otherwise.

The assumptions of Theistic evolution

- (1) God used evolution as the means of creation.
- (2) The Bible—and the history contained in it, e.g. Gen.6-9—is irrelevant to science.
- (3) Evolution has preference over Scripture. The Bible must be understood in the light of evolution, not vice versa.
- (4) God is the Creator of Scripture as to His nature, character and actions.
- (5) Scripture is full of myths and traditions, but has no history—relevant to 'creation' - that is meaningful.

Concluding remarks

Dr Gitt concludes from the philosophy of science that no absolute knowledge is possible. All our knowledge has a preliminary character (according to Popper). We may talk glibly of 'scientific objectivity', but the truth is that 'every scientific statement must remain tentative for ever' (p25). It is not that science gives us the truth, but that it drives us in the critical and persistent quest for truth. [Even when a Dr Dawkins is 'intellectually fulfilled' with his evolutionary atheism, his universe is devoid of purpose, meaning and significance. Whence the 'fulfilment'? Ed].

None so blind....

W. Pauli, Nobel Prize-winner for physics, said that science cannot cope with questions of origins (referred to p25). [Here is a fundamental criticism of evolutionary propaganda: it will not face the real nature of its own 'science'. There are none so blind as those that will not see. Ed].

A book report is no substitute for the real thing. The reader is encouraged to obtain this book for himself/herself from AiG (See link). These notes give a brief sketch only to wet the reader's appetite.

Dr Werner Gitt DID GOD USE EVOLUTION? Ch.3

MAN'S ORIGIN

According to the theory of evolution man originated from earlier primitive organisms, in fact ultimately from inorganic molecules. Our origin was a matter of chance. It was also purposeless.

The Bible

Gives a very different view.

(1) Man was deliberately created by God (Gen.1:26). The end in view is expressed in Rev.4:11.

(2) God executes His own plans in the Genesis account (Gen.1:27).

ORIGIN OF LANGUAGE

Darwinism regards language as a product of evolution. But there are scientific problems with that view.

(1) Speech depends on a number of organs—voice-box, throat cavity, control-system (brain). How come they all evolved together—by chance—to facilitate speech?

(2) A child learns to speak from his parents. How did the original speaker acquire language?

(3) Human language is not just a communication-system: it is a 'knowledge-medium', giving us access to the observable world, but it has no selection-value. *We didn't need language in order to survive.*

(4) Evolutionary theories fail because human language is a non-material phenomenon.

The Bible

God spoke to Adam, who understood Him. Speech was God-given. Adam's ability to invent new words (Gen.2:20) was a gift he was created with.

THE ORIGIN OF SEX

Sexuality is an essential evolutionary factor. Some see it as an invention of higher animals

and plants.

Scientific problem with this:

Sexual reproduction is only possible when both sexes have fully functioning sex-organs *at the same time*. How could two organisms—disparate in this respect—evolve *complementarily, simultaneously and purely by chance*? Who are they trying to kid?

The Bible

Teaches that sex was created by God (cf. Gen.1:12, 22, 27). He 'created man....male and female He created them (Gen. 1:17). That is surely as believable as the evolutionary story!

THE ORIGIN OF MARRIAGE

Evolution

Says that marriage is a social invention within the framework of cultural evolution. Originally societies were matriarchal, but eventually became patriarchal.

The Bible

(1) Tells us that marriage was a gift from God, when He gave Eve to Adam. It was not invented by man, see Gen.2: 22-23, cf. Matt.19:4-6. It is not a humanly devised institution.

(2) Sexual intercourse outside marriage is forbidden (Ex.20: 14). Sexual relations outside marriage are adultery or fornication. Exodus 20:14 and Matt.5:27-30 prohibit both.

(3) Woman was to be man's helper, not his boss, nor yet his slave. It is true that the Bible teaches us that a man is to be the 'head' of his wife (1 Cor. 11:3), but that doesn't mean that he should bully her. On the contrary Ephesians 5:24-25 tells us that a man should love and care for his wife.

THE ORIGIN OF DEATH

On the Darwinian view death is necessary for evolution. The old individuals must die so that their genes do not continue to be inherited. Death is a creative

factor in evolution. Some evolutionists even describe death as an invention of evolution! Death is an opportunity for new experiments! Indeed some even say that death is the creator of life!! There is no end to such nonsense.

The Bible teaches

that all life came into existence through God's creative acts. Having created it He pronounced it to be 'very good' (Gen. 1:31). He made everything through His Son, Jesus Christ (John 1:1-3; Col.1:16) and the evolutionary strategy of inventing 'creative death' is totally alien to Scripture! The expression 'Theistic evolution' - if the God and Father of Jesus Christ is meant—is a contradiction in terms.

Death came in!

Originally man did not die and would not have died, if Adam had not rebelled against God's will (Gen.3). God had threatened death (Gen.2:17) and He carried out His threat (Gen.3). *That was when death entered the world* (Rom.5:12). The wages of sin is death.

Three kinds of death

(1) Spiritual death or separation from God (see Eph.2:1-3).
(2) Physical death (Gen.3:19).
(3) Eternal death, i.e. everlasting separation from God (see Matt.25:46; 2 Thess.2:9).

We are born *once* but without faith in Jesus Christ we die twice, the second time for ever. If however we have been born *twice*, we only die once—physical death, but not eternal separation from God.

Christian or Darwinian?

What is it that determines our view of death and attitude to it? The Bible or evolution? It seems to Prof. Gitt that the genuine Christian must be Bible-first and Bible-only! We in WYCG say Amen to that!