

The Top 10 Myths About Evolution #1

Introduction. In his latest book, *The Grand Design*, Stephen Hawking said, "Because there is a law such as gravity, the Universe can and will create itself from nothing. Spontaneous creation is the reason there is something rather than nothing, why the Universe exists, why we exist." He added: "It is not necessary to invoke God to light the blue touch paper and set the Universe going."

This man has an enormous influence because he is widely regarded as the smartest man alive. However, his views could not be further from the revealed, divine truth in Genesis. If we ignore the dimension of spiritual warfare being waged by evolutionary ideas, we are treading in dangerous waters. Satan is the father of lies (John 8:44). Is it not possible that the ruler of this present world could manufacture confusion and deception using modern secularism on many levels aimed at bringing to all of us the fundamental problem of Eve: doubting God's word?

I. **Myth 10: Computer Simulations Prove Evolution**

- A. Every so often, a news report will trumpet a new computer program with "living cyber organisms" that prove how life on earth evolved. These simulations often show how artificial life-forms reproduce, grow, and change over several generations. The algorithms behind these creatures can be quite complex in an effort to be as close to the "real world" as possible.
- B. But what do such programs prove?
 - 1. It is always important to remember that any computer program reflects the biases and assumptions of the programmer. In most cases, these programmers assume evolution to be true, and their artificial environments reflect this.
 - 2. Also, many programs have goals and waypoints, something that is not true of supposed Darwinian evolution. The programmers do not make a program without certain boundaries and guidelines that direct what the program can and cannot do. They make one with a purpose in mind.
- C. Finally, the greatest irony of all is that these brilliant programmers, who are trying to prove that life evolved without intelligence, pour plenty of brain power into making these sophisticated artificial organisms. Keep that in mind when they declare this proves life arose by sheer, brainless natural selection (Psalm 33:6, 9).

II. **Myth 9: Homologous Structures Show Past Evolution**

- A. It is a staple of almost every biology book on the market: drawings of colored bones that show how evolution left its fingerprints on animals

of common descent. These drawings point out how similar structure proves that we all come from one ancestor. The proof, they say, is as plain as the hand in front of our face.

- B. Objectively, however, similar design and function can prove nothing. An iPod and an iPhone may have very similar parts, for example, but that certainly does not mean the iPhone evolved from the iPod because of hardware glitches. Instead, because we have objective knowledge of history, we know that the same company designed both, which accounts for the similar design.
- C. In the same way, similar structures in animals are just as strong an evidence for a common Designer leaving His mark on the works of His hand (Psalm 104:24-25). Human designers often use similar solutions across a wide range of products. Why would we expect God not to do the same?

III. ***Myth 8: There Are Clear Transitional Fossils***

- A. Darwin fretted over the lack of them, paleontologists are still looking for them, but they are often touted as the foundation of evolutionary theory. What are they? Transitional fossils. According to evolutionists, transitional fossils are sparse for a number of reasons: (1) fossils in general only give us a glimpse of the past, (2) punctuated equilibrium may cause geologically "rapid" changes in species, and (3) they are not easy to distinguish. However, many of us have seen the supposed fossils of the horse and whale series and the new "missing link" called Tiktaalik.
- B. We must remember, however, that fossils do not come with tags telling us when and how the animal was buried, its lifestyle, and if or how it was related to another species. Scientists must make reasonable assumptions based on what they believe about the past and extrapolations from the data. Without an objective source of information, these assumptions are often tied to the subjective evolutionary worldview. Creation scientists, on the other hand, see the fossil record as evidence for both a global Flood and also the amazing diversity of the original created "kinds" (Genesis 1:20-25).
- C. One fact that most people think they "know" about evolution is that organisms become more complex as they evolve. After all, is that not how a single-celled organism became a person? Dan McShea, an evolutionary biologist at the University of Michigan, says, "Everybody knows that organisms ... get more complex as they evolve. The only trouble with what everyone knows, is that there is no evidence it is true."
- D. The reality of the geologic column is predicated on the belief that fossils have restricted ranges in rock strata. In actuality, as more and

more fossils are found, the ranges of fossils keep increasing. The constant extension of ranges simultaneously reduces the credibility of the geologic column and organic evolution, and makes it easier for the Genesis Flood to explain an increasingly random fossil record.

- E. Because there are a lack of transitional forms (and the ones found, including "walking whales" and fish, are contentious to say the least), evolutionists must resort to blurring the lines and claiming that since all species are in transition, we should not expect to find "missing links." Perhaps the reason we do not find true transitional forms is because one created kind does not, cannot, and has never changed into another created kind.

IV. ***Myth 7: Ape-Human DNA Similarities***

- A. The "slam dunk" proof for human evolution is, according to evolutionists, the claimed 98% similarity between human and chimp DNA and the evidence of chromosomal fusion. Textbooks tell us that this proves the common ancestry of humans and apes from ape-like beings that lived millions of years ago (1 Kings 10:22; 2 Chronicles 9:21).
- B. What makes this a myth, however, is that evolutionists forget to mention the problems with this claim.
 - 1. The percentage of similarity may sound impressive (depending on which percentage you find), but this represents millions of letters of difference in the DNA. Some scientists are surprised at the anatomical, physical and behavioral differences between man and chimpanzee when they see so much apparent genetic similarity.
 - 2. Seeing the "history" of humans evolving from chimps in DNA and chromosomes requires a prior commitment to evolution. Evolutionists interpret the data to mean what they want it to mean in light of Darwin's myth (Psalm 8:3-9).
- C. Though there are similarities between apes and humans, this too is strong evidence for a common Designer, who gave humanity characteristics unlike any other creature He made. But this does not stop evolutionists from using flat-out propaganda as in myth #6.

V. ***Myth 6: Apemen And Artistic License***

- A. The pervasive ape-to-human montage that shows an ape-like being on the left slowly becoming a human on the right is so much a part of culture that most anyone can recognize it. Natural history museums and television shows give us supposed glimpses into the past and how human ancestors might have looked. Too bad it is all a sham.
- B. Though many similarities may be cited between living apes and humans, the only historical evidence that could support the ape

ancestry of man must come from fossils Unfortunately, the fossil record of man and apes is very sparse. Approximately 95% of all known fossils are marine invertebrates, about 4.7% are algae and plants, about 0.2% are insects and other invertebrates and only about 0.1% are vertebrates (animals with bones). Finally, only the smallest imaginable fraction of vertebrate fossils consists of primates.

- C. But when a new ape fossil is found, it does not generate as much interest or prestige as one called a "human ancestor," which is why there is so much focus on how ape fossils tie into evolution. The desire to "fill in the gaps" leads to many false conclusions.
 1. For example, some of the supposed "bipedal" characteristics found in fossils are also found in living apes that are not bipedal.
 2. The problem in declaring a fossil ape to be a human ancestor (i.e., a hominid) on the basis of certain humanlike features of the teeth is that some living apes have these same features and they are not considered to be ancestors of man.
- D. In fact, imagination, wishful thinking, and presuppositions influence a great deal of the "reconstructions" we find in magazines, textbooks, and on television. Enjoy the science, but do not be taken in by the fiction. God created Adam very distinctly from the rest of the animal world (Genesis 1:26-28).

Conclusion. We bow to the authority of Jesus Christ in His word, which includes numerous assertions of fact about the origin and history of Earth, the cosmos, and mankind contrary to the position taken by scientists and modernistic Christians. Read the scripture with an open mind and see for yourself.

Those of us who believe in creation regret that there are Christians who accept secular, natural history as more reliable than the Bible. However, God will judge all of His people and will reward them according to their faithfulness (Revelation 22:12). We need to be among the ones who are faithful to that word.