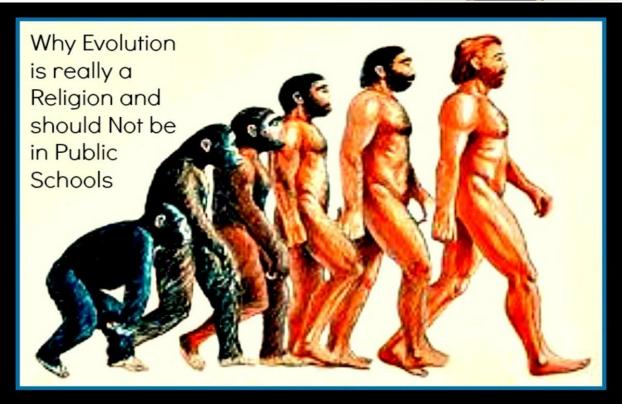
EVOLUTION IS A RELIGION!

by David Lee Burris







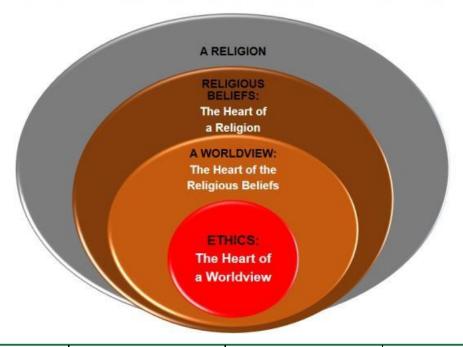
"Evolution is promoted by its practitioners as more than mere science. Evolution is promulgated as an ideology, a secular religion - a full-fledged alternative to Christianity, with meaning and morality. I am an ardent evolutionist and an ex-Christian, but I must admit that in this one complaint - ...and Mr. Gish is but one of many to make it - the literalists are absolutely right.

Evolution is a religion. This was true of evolution in the beginning, and it is true of evolution today."

~MICHAEL RUSE

WORLDVIEW IS RELIGION!

RELIGIONS & WORLDVIEWS



	Theism	Naturalism	Pantheism
God	Personal	Non-existent	Impersonal
World	Creation	Phy. Evolution	Spir.
			Evolution
Human Nat.	Like God	Like Animals	Is God
Body/Soul	Unity	Body Only	Soul Only
Immortality	Resurrection	Annihilation	Reincarnation
Destiny	Glorification	Extinction	Absorption
Authority	Divine	Human	Spiritual
	Revelation	Reason	Experiences
Truth	Absolute	Relative	Personal
Jesus	Son of God	Good Man	Enlightenment
Salvation	Redemption	Education	Meditation
Evil	Rebellion	Ignorance	Illusion
Ethics	God-centered	Man-centered	World-centered
History	Linear	Chaotic	Cyclical
Culture	God ordained	Man-centered	World-centered

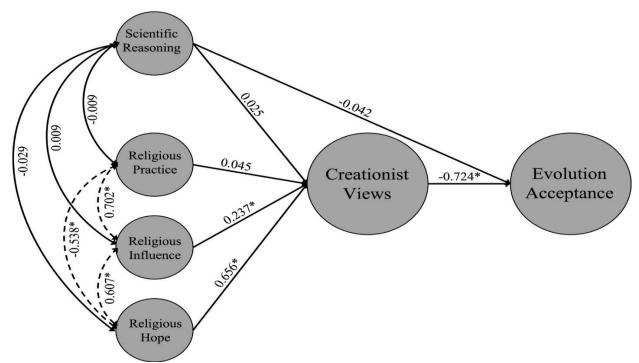


Illustration of structural equation model that characterizes relationships among factors. Bidirectional lines (dotted line) indicate correlation coefficients, while directional lines (solid lines) indicate predictive relationships. Significance: $^{*}p < 0.001$

What does the data mean?

There is not a deficit in an underlying ability to reason that causes religious people to reject evolution. Our data clearly shows that individuals can be highly adept at scientific reasoning and still reject evolution (most likely on religious grounds).

Our data also shows that one can be severely lacking in scientific reasoning ability and still accept evolution.

It appears from this study that worldview (or religion), not intelligence, is the main driver of this decision.

FROM IMPACT COLUMN BY HENRY MORRIS:

The idea of particles-to-people evolution does not meet the criteria of a scientific theory. There are no evolutionary transitions that have ever been observed, either during human history or in the fossil record of the past; and the universal law of entropy seems to make it impossible on any significant scale.

Evolutionists claim that evolution is a scientific fact, but they almost always lose science debates with creationist scientists. Accordingly, most evolutionists now decline opportunities for scientific debates, preferring instead to make unilateral attacks on creationists.

Scientists should refuse formal debates because they do themselves more harm than good, but the evolutionary scientists still need to counter the creationist message.

The question is, just why do they need to counter the creationist message? Why are they so committed to anti-creationism?

The fact is that evolutionists believe in evolution because they want to. It is their desire at all costs to explain the origin of everything without a Creator. Evolutionism is thus intrinsically an atheistic religion.

Some may prefer to call it humanism, and New Age evolutionists may place it in the context of some form of pantheism, but they all amount to the same thing. Whether atheism or humanism (or even pantheism), the purpose is to eliminate a personal God from any active role in the origin of the universe and all its components, including man.

The core of the humanistic philosophy is that of naturalism—the proposition that the natural world proceeds according to its own internal dynamics, without any divine or supernatural control or guidance, and that we human beings are creations of that process.

It is instructive to recall that the philosophers of the early movement debated as to which term more adequately described their position: humanism or naturalism. Functionally, the two concepts are complementary and inseparable.

Since both naturalism and humanism exclude God from science or any other active function in the creation or maintenance of life and the universe in general, it is very obvious that their position is nothing but that of atheism. And atheism, no less than theism, is a religion! Even the most doctrinaire-most atheistic evolutionist Richard Dawkins admits that atheism cannot be proven to be true.

Of course, we can't prove that there isn't a God.

Therefore, they must believe it, and that makes it a religion. The atheistic nature of evolution is not only admitted, but insisted upon, by most of the leaders of evolutionary thought.

Ernst Mayr, for example, says that:

Darwinism rejects all supernatural phenomena and causations.

A professor in the Department of Biology at Kansas State University says:

Even if all the data point to an intelligent designer, such hypothesis is excluded from science because it is not naturalistic.

It is well known in the scientific world today that such influential evolutionists as Stephen Jay Gould and Edward Wilson of Harvard, Richard Dawkins of England, William Provine of Cornell, and numerous other evolutionary spokesmen are dogmatic atheists. Eminent scientific philosopher and ardent Darwinian atheist Michael Ruse has acknowledged that evolution *is their religion!*

Evolution is promoted by its practitioners as more than mere science. Evolution is promulgated as an ideology, a secular religion—a full-fledged alternative to Christianity, with meaning and morality. . . . Evolution is a religion. This was true of evolution in the beginning, and it is true of evolution still today.

Another way of saying "religion" is "worldview," the whole of reality. The evolutionary worldview applies not only to the evolution of life, but even to that of the entire universe.

In the realm of cosmic evolution, our naturalistic scientists depart even further from experimental science than life scientists do, manufacturing a variety of evolutionary cosmologies from esoteric mathematics and metaphysical speculation. Socialist Jeremy Rifkin has commented on this remarkable game.

Cosmologies are made up of small snippets of physical reality that have been remodeled by society into vast cosmic deceptions.

They must believe in evolution, therefore, in spite of all evidence, not because of it. And speaking of deceptions, note the following remarkable statement.

We take the side of science in spite of the patent absurdity of some of its constructs, . . . in spite of the tolerance of the scientific community for unsubstantiated commitment to materialism. . . . we are forced by our a priori adherence to material causes to create an apparatus of investigation and set of concepts that produce material explanations, no matter how counterintuitive, no matter how mystifying to those uninitiated. *Moreover, that materialism is absolute, for we cannot allow a Divine Foot in the door.*

The author of this frank statement is Richard Lewontin of Harvard. Since evolution is not a laboratory science, there is no way to test its validity, so all sorts of just-so stories are contrived to adorn the textbooks. That doesn't make them true! An evolutionist reviewing a recent book by another (but more critical) evolutionist, says:

We cannot identify ancestors or "missing links," and we cannot devise testable theories to explain how particular episodes of evolution came about. Gee is adamant that all the popular stories about how the first amphibians conquered the dry land, how the birds developed wings and feathers for flying, how the dinosaurs went extinct, and how humans evolved from apes are just products of our imagination, driven by prejudices and preconceptions.

A fascinatingly honest admission by one physicist indicates the passionate commitment of establishment scientists to naturalism. Speaking of the trust students naturally place in their highly educated college professors, he says:

And I use that trust to effectively brainwash them. . . . our teaching methods are primarily those of propaganda.

We appeal—without demonstration—to evidence that supports our position.

We only introduce arguments and evidence that supports currently accepted theories and omit or gloss over evidence to the contrary.

Will Provine at Cornell University is another scientist who frankly acknowledges this.

As the creationists claim, belief in modern evolution makes atheists of people. One can have a religious view compatible with evolution only if the religious view is indistinguishable from atheism.

Once again, we emphasize that evolution is not science, evolutionists' tirades notwithstanding. It is a philosophical worldview, nothing more. Another prominent evolutionist comments as follows:

(Evolution) must, they feel, explain everything. . . . A theory that explains everything might just as well be discarded since it has no real explanatory value. Of course, the other thing about evolution is that anything can be said because very little can be disproved. Experimental evidence is minimal.

Even that statement is too generous. Actual experimental evidence demonstrating true evolution (macroevolution) is not "minimal." It is nonexistent!

The leading evolutionist of the twentieth century is considered to be Sir Julian Huxley, primary architect of modern neo-Darwinism. Huxley called evolution a "religion without revelation."

The evolutionists themselves, to all intents and purposes, have shown that evolutionism is not science, but religious faith in atheism.

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF ASSUMPTIONS

Two examples from history clarify the point. First, one of the most influential early disciples of Charles Darwin was a German scientist named Ernst Haeckel. Haeckel became known as "Darwin's Bulldog on the Continent" and "the Huxley of Germany." His writings continue to have a significant impact, and many modern biology texts still draw on his research to promote the theory of evolution (Kaskel, p. 620). Haeckel's book *The History of Creation* is a good sample of his teachings. As implied by its title, the book attempts to provide an alternative to the book of Genesis, using evolutionary, atheistic assumptions.

Haeckel realized that, for any spontaneous generation to be even remotely possible, life forms unimaginably simpler than those known must somehow be viable. Because of his faith in evolution, Haeckel devised such organisms, named them "Monera," and he wrote about them at length. In the book, Haeckel speaks of "Monera" as if their existence were fact. Haeckel's book includes detailed drawings of "Monera," with supporting text such as:

We have become acquainted with *Monera*, organisms which are, in fact, not composed of any organs at all, but consist entirely of shapeless, simple, homogenous matter. The entire body of one of these Monera, during life, is nothing more than a shapeless, mobile, lump of slime, consisting of an albuminous combination of carbon (1876).

At some point Haeckel let his faith-based assumption that Monera exist drive him to the incorrect conclusion that he actually had observed them.

Evidence that observed "Monera" were instead lifeless, inorganic compounds was available as early as the year 1875. In that year it was determined that the alleged "Monera" were nothing more than amorphous gypsum, precipitated out of sea-water by alcohol. However, even with the clear refutation from true, operational science, "Monera" continued to be presented as fact for over 50 years by atheists seeking to support Darwinian religion.

What would it have been like to be a Christian a century ago, trying to defend the Bible even when it disagreed with accepted "scientific" wisdom? Most Americans at that time did not have a high school education and had not traveled more than a few miles from their place of birth. How could a Christian defend the Bible against some of the greatest scientific minds the world had to offer?

In the 18th century, a faithful Christian armed only with his Bible could have predicted the prior existence of dinosaurs, and perhaps some did. At that time, many Christians had already decided to interpret passages found in Job 40 and elsewhere as referring to creatures currently living, although the descriptions obviously did not fit. Of course, with the discovery of dinosaurs in 1822, the faithful Christian would have been vindicated.

Which Is Scientific, Evolution Or Creation?

During a recent, highly publicized decision, the U.S. District Court of Arkansas, has knocked down a law designed to give "scientific creationism" equal time with teaching of evolution in the public schools. In justifying his ruling, Judge Overton stated that good solid fence must be erected and maintained between the domains of State and Church. He reasoned that since "scientific creationism" is an approach to origins based on the biblical account rather than on observing nature, it is religion, not a science. To allow religion to be taught in the public schools would violate the freedom of religion of some students.

The impact of this ruling is that, in Arkansas, the State will not allow the Bible to be considered when pondering origins. The State will only allow study of the philosophy that matter somehow evolved into life through natural occurrence. This position ignores the possibility that mind created matter and it orients young minds away from them giving even passing thought to their Creator.

Despite the unfavorable ruling dealt creationists in Arkansas, evolutionists are alarmed at the inroads made by the creation lobby. Evolutionists are encouraging scientists to form groups and go on the offensive against the "unscientific notions" of creationists. Evolution propagandists warn scientists not to engage in debate (often they look foolish when they do) but to use every opportunity to undermine creationist effort. The sad side of all this furor is that a great many scientists are so dedicated to defending Darwin's theory that they have closed their minds to a great mass of evidence.

The young and naive are taught that evolution is a proven fact. The claim is made that evolutionary notions are scientific even though science deals only in observable and repeatable evidence. The simple truth is that the conjecture life evolved on this planet from random matter interactions over billions of years is beyond observation. Attempts to coax out life from matter have met only with failure. Theory that can't be tested or proven through observation and repetition is not science.

Evolution is as much religion as the biblical creation account.

Today evolutionists offer the fossil record as proof positive Darwin's theory is correct and yet, Charles Darwin himself believed that it would require the discovery of transitional forms (fossil evidence of one kind of creature that developed into another kind) in order to verify his speculations. After a hundred years of extensive search, transitional forms are yet to be uncovered.

What a person can observe is that living creatures reproduce after their own kind. Fossils are best formed by rapid and by impact burial, such as caused by a mudslide or flood, and that every form of life now extant is found in the fossil record. It appears that life comes from other life, not from the random interactions of matter.

Anyone interested in observing first hand a death blow to evolutionary thinking should visit Glen Rose, Texas. In the Paluxy River bed are huge dinosaur footprints in stone. Mixed with the tracks of these monsters are those of human beings. According to evolutionists, man was not on the scene when the giant lizards ruled the earth 70 to 200 million years ago. How then is the track of man found in the same rock strata as the track of dinosaur? - Guardian of Truth XXVII: 3, p. 82

ICR: RELIGIOUS ESSENCE OF EVOLUTIONISM

As a matter of fact, many leading evolutionists have recognized the essentially "religious" character of the theory of evolution. "Science", however, isn't supposed to be something one "believes". Science is knowledge—that which can be demonstrated or both observed and repeated. Evolution cannot be proved, or even tested; it can only be believed.

For example, two leading evolutionary biologists have described modern neo-Darwinism as "dogma accepted as part of our training". A prominent British biologist, Fellow of the Royal Society, in the Introduction to the 1971 edition of Darwin's *Origin of Species*, stated "belief in evolution" was "parallel to belief in special creation," with evolution merely "a satisfactory faith on which to base our interpretation of nature". ² G.H. Harper calls it a "metaphysical belief".

The place of biological evolution in human thought was best expressed in a passage quoted from Pierre Teilhard de Chardin: '(Evolution) is a general postulate to which all theories, hypotheses, all systems must henceforward bow and which they must satisfy to be thinkable and be true. Evolution is a light which illuminates all the facts, a trajectory which all lines of thought must follow.'

The British physicist, H.S. Lipson, has reached the following conclusion.

Evolution became in a sense a scientific religion; almost all scientists have accepted it and many are prepared to 'bend' their observations to fit in with it.

The man whom Dobzhansky called "France's leading zoologist." although himself an evolutionist, said that scientists should "destroy the myth of evolution" as a simple phenomenon which is "unfolding before us".

Dr. Colin Patterson, Senior Paleontologist at the British Museum of Natural History, by any accounting one of the world's top evolutionists today, has recently called evolution "positively anti-knowledge", saying that "all my life I had been duped into taking evolutionism as revealed truth". In another address he called evolution "story-telling". All of the above-cited authorities are among the world's foremost authorities on evolution.

The terms which are used in describing evolution:

Evolutionary dogma	A scientific religion	
A satisfactory faith	The myth of evolution	
Man's world view	Anti-knowledge	
All-pervading process	Revealed truth	
The whole of reality	An illuminating light	
Metaphysical belief	Story=telling	
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Charles Darwin himself called evolution "this grand view of life". Now such grandiloquent terms as these are not scientific terms! One does not call the law of gravity, for example, "a satisfactory faith", nor speak of the laws of thermodynamics as "dogma". Evolution is, indeed, a grand world view, but it's not science. Its comprehensiveness makes it impossible even to test scientifically. Ehrlich and Birch said "Every conceivable observation can be fitted into it. No one can think of ways in which to test it".

- Institute for Creation Research

The Emperor Has NO clothes!

Did you know that Macro Evolution is actually religion? The scientific method requires a theory to be observed, tested and duplicated, macro evolution can't pass any of those tests. Also, in order to believe in evolution one must exercise "blind faith" in following the proponents of evolution. One must exercise blind faith because the key component of macro-evolution is billions of years. It cannot be tested because supposedly it happened so slowly over billions of years that we cannot observe it. The emperor has no clothes!

Moreover, evidence against macro evolution is much more widespread and observable than evidence for it. I would dare ask anyone to find a dog that gives birth to anything but a dog, or cat giving birth to anything but a cat, thereby providing ample evidence in every species known to man that kind gives birth to kind and one species does not parent another. Additionally, the theory of evolution directly contradicts the Second Law of Thermodynamics. The 2nd Law of Thermodynamics states that everything is decomposing or deteriorating.

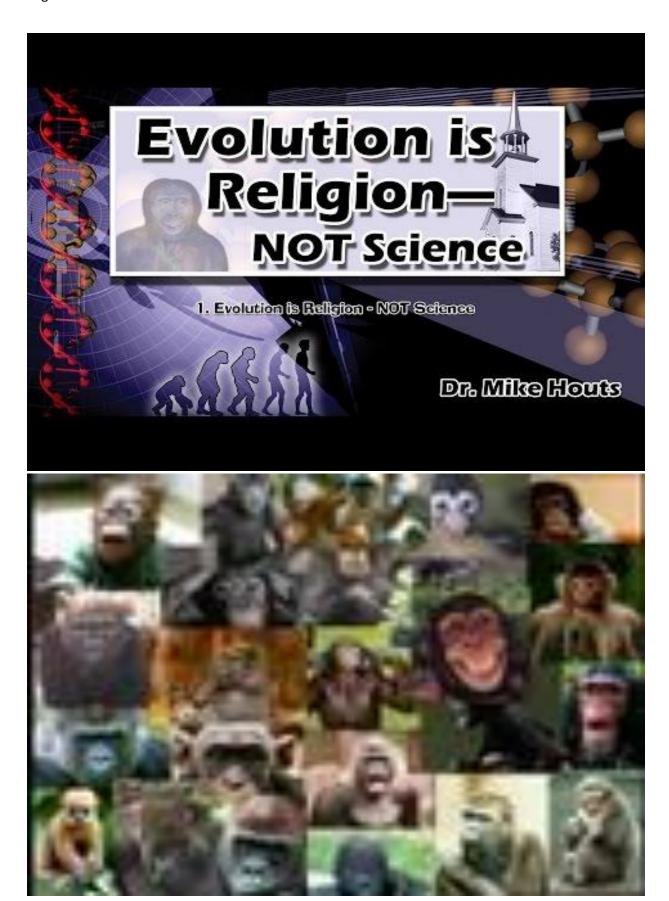
The theory of evolution surmises that somethings are actually improving and/or evolving.

Evolutionary change above the species level is macro evolution while evolutionary changes in populations within a species are termed micro-evolution. Micro-evolution explains why we have both toy poodles and St. Bernard's within the same species, while macro-evolution is the supposed science that explains how we evolved from... rocks to become human beings!

Proponents of macro-evolution state that the reason we cannot observe evolution is because it happened so long ago, over billions and billions of years and that even now while evolution is still occurring it is happening at such a "slow" rate one can't observe it.

Regardless of the "supposed" reason for the lack of observation and evidence, the fact that we cannot observe, test or duplicate macro evolution puts the theory squarely into the realm of religion or faith no matter how many scientists protest this charge.

- The Hub Pages



AT THE NEXUS OF GRACE & GLORY

Five Steps For Saving:

- HEARING:
- Romans 10: 17; Matthew 7: 24 27
- BELIEVING:
- Hebrews 11: 6; Mark 16: 15, 16
- REPENTING:
- Acts 2: 38; 17: 30; Luke 13: 3
- **CONFESSING**:
- Matthew 10: 32, 33; Acts 8: 36, 37
- BAPTISM:
- Romans 6: 3 − 5; Acts 8: 36 − 38

