

EVOLUTION— IMPOSSIBLE TO EMBARRASS ITS BELIEVERS

by Henry M. Morris*

Creationists have often pointed out that evolution is unscientific because it can never be *proved* by science to be true. It is not happening at present and without a time machine, they can never be *sure* that it happened in the past.

Regardless of how much an organism looks like it had been intelligently designed, evolutionists (without even sounding embarrassed) will insist that natural selection has the power to make it *look like* it was designed, even though it wasn't. Furthermore, no matter what fossil they find out of its accepted place in the evolutionary "record," the evolutionists can "explain" how it got there.

The recent discovery of the intact flesh of a *Tyrannosaurus rex* with its "blood vessels—still flexible and elastic after 68 million years—and apparently intact cells"¹ is a case in point. It would seem impossible for such soft structures to be preserved intact even for 6800 years, but evolutionists accept it on faith.

Similarly, Silurian fossil ostracodes supposedly 425 million years old have been found recently in England virtually identical to their modern-day counterparts and containing "a jaw-dropping amount of detail,"² but this discovery does not phase evolutionists. They still believe it was buried 425 million years ago!

On another front, one would think that geophysicists would be embarrassed by their repeated failure to find the so-called Mohorovicic Discontinuity (except by inference from seismic waves) at the boundary between the earth's "crust" and "mantle." Since the supposed evolutionary history of the earth is theoretically related to this "Moho," scientists have been trying to confirm its existence, along with the assumed nature of the mantle, by drilling deep holes in the crust. This has been going on since the early sixties without success, the latest such attempt having failed earlier this year.

The Bible long ago prophesied that it was not possible that the "*heaven above can be measured, and the foundations of the earth searched out beneath*" (Jeremiah 31:37). Nevertheless: "Undaunted, oceanographers are ready to try again."³

On the heavenly front, the same unembarrassed evolutionary cosmologists will evidently continue trying to "explain" the evolutionary history of the cosmos. Theories abound, and change frequently, the rising favorite being "string theory," involving multiple dimensions of space and even multiple universes of space/time. However, as one evolutionary astrophysicist admits: ". . . the universe unveiled by the hellishly complex mathematics of super-string

*Dr. Henry Morris is Founder and President Emeritus of ICR.

theory is not even remotely close to what string theorists anticipated.”⁴

Another cosmologist insists, however, that “string theory possesses a virtue for which many physicists are willing to accept these seeming absurdities: It can reconcile quantum mechanics and Einstein’s theory of gravity.”⁵ But then he admits that “the theory itself continues to grow more complicated and mysterious.”⁶

Its main virtue is that it can explain the cosmos without God. As Gardner insists, “. . . the fundamental credo of science is that deep mysteries like these will someday, if only in the distant future, succumb to rational explanation.”⁷

And what about human evolution? A recent statistical study of the genetics of human populations revealed,

the most recent common ancestor (MRCA) for a randomly mating population would have lived in the very recent past. . . . In particular, the MRCA of all present-day humans lived just a few thousand years ago in these models.⁸

The writer avoids mentioning the “Adam and Eve” explanation, of course. Nevertheless, he also notes that: “And a few thousand years before that, . . . the ancestors of everyone on the earth today were exactly the same.”⁹

One would think that analyses such as this, made by evolutionists on the real data of genetics and human populations would be embarrassing to evolutionists who commonly postulate an approximately million-year history of human existence on earth. But even if there were people living all during the past million years, how come they all kept the same genetic makeup until just a few thousand years ago? The Biblical record would seem at least relevant to the discussion!

Then there are the recent research findings by ICR scientists and others working on the RATE project that have

uncovered many new evidences that the earth is young, including the ubiquitous presence of radiocarbon in coal beds and even in diamonds. For years, of course, creationists have been pointing out that no real evolution has taken place during the several thousand years of human history and also that there are no legitimate series of transitional forms in the fossil beds of the past, plus the negative effects of mutations and the testimony of the laws of thermodynamics—all of which seem to make any macroevolution extremely unlikely, if not impossible.

Yet evolutionists continue to control the scientific and education establishments, insisting that total evolution is a scientific fact and creation is religion, so only evolution can be allowed to be taught in public schools and colleges. They gloat over the alleged fact that “an unprecedented 14 percent of Americans tell pollsters that they are atheists, agnostics, secular humanists, or simply disinterested in religion.”¹⁰ Even if this figure is assumed to be correct, it still leaves 86% of the population who believe in God.

And they express surprise that so many people have somehow come to believe in creation despite all the brainwashing in schools. The editor-in-chief of the premier magazine *Science*, recently moaned in a lead editorial that:

Alternatives to the teaching of biological evolution are now being debated in no fewer than 40 states. Worse, evolution is not the only science under such challenge. In several school districts, geology materials are being rewritten because their dates for Earth’s age are inconsistent with scripture (too old).¹¹

A few evolutionists do seem to have at least a glimpse of why we object to their insistence that evolution be considered a scientifically proven fact. The following

commentary on evolutionary science was in a recent issue of *Geotimes*.

Evolutionists have “Physics Envy”.

They tell the public that the science behind evolution is the same science that sent people to the moon and cures diseases. It’s not.

The science behind evolution is not empirical, but forensic. Because evolution took place in history, its scientific investigations are after the fact—no testing, no observations, no repeatability, no falsification, nothing at all like physics. . . . I think this is what the public discerns—that evolution is just a bunch of just-so stories disguised as legitimate science.¹²

Another evolutionist makes an interesting admission. He says: “Contrary to their public image, scientists are normal, flawed human beings.”¹³ They are as capable of prejudice, covetousness, pride, deceitfulness, etc., as anyone.

Evolutionists can’t seem to comprehend why most Americans still believe in God, creation, and the Bible, despite having the “fact” of evolution dogmatically taught to them throughout their school years. The fact is that there is an abundance of objective evidence that the Bible really is the Word of God. It is not just a book of religion as they argue, but a book of factual history. Jesus Christ really did rise from the dead and Jesus Christ really did confirm the truth of the Biblical account of origins. Creationists do not believe in the Bible just because they are ignorant of science.

Peter says that “*we have not followed cunningly devised fables. . . . We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed . . .*” (II Peter 1:16,19). And the apostle Paul, prophesying of the humanists of “*the last days*” said that they would be “*Ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth*” (II Timothy

3:1,7) because “*they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables*” (II Timothy 4:4).

A creationist scientist justifiably might think of the Psalmist’s caustic commentary on the ancient idol-making pantheistic evolutionists:

Their idols are silver and gold, the work of men’s hands. They have mouths, but they speak not: eyes have they, but they see not: . . . They that make them are like unto them; so is every one that trusteth in them (Psalm 115:4,5,8).

Endnotes

1. Erik Stokstad, “Tyrannosaurus rex Soft Tissue Raises Tantalizing Prospects,” *Science* (vol. 307, March 25, 2005), p. 1852.
2. Erik Stokstad, “Gutsy Fossil Sets Record for Staying the Course,” *Science* (vol. 302, December 5, 2003), p. 1645.
3. Richard A. Kerr, “Pursued for 40 Years, the Moho Evades Ocean Drillers Once Again,” *Science* (vol. 307, March 18, 2005), p. 1707.
4. James N. Gardner, “Fundamental Cosmological Understanding Eludes Us,” *Skeptical Inquirer* (vol. 28, July/August, 2004), p. 51.
5. Adrian Cho, “String Theory Gets Real—Sort of,” *Science* (vol. 306, November 26, 2004), p. 1461.
6. *Ibid.*, p. 1462.
7. James N. Gardner, op. cit., p. 52.
8. Douglas L. T. Rohde, Steve Olson, and Joseph T. Chang, “Modelling the Recent Common Ancestry of all Living Humans,” *Nature* (vol. 431, September 30, 2004), p. 562.
9. *Ibid.*, p. 565.
10. Promotional brochure published by the Council for Secular Humanism.
11. Donald Kennedy, “Twilight for the Enlightenment?” *Science* (vol. 308, April 8, 2005), p. 165.
12. John Chaikowsky, “Geology v. Physics,” *Geotimes* (vol. 50, April 2005), p. 6.
13. David Weatherall, “Conduct Unbecoming,” *American Scientist* (vol. 93, January-February 2005), p. 73. ☞

HOW COULD NOAH AND HIS FAMILY CARE FOR THE MANY ANIMALS ON BOARD THE ARK?

by John D. Morris, Ph.D.

Detractors from the Bible story of the Flood have scoffed at the idea of just a few people carrying out all the duties of animal care for a year. Without a doubt, it would have been a daunting task considering the number of animals and the frightening circumstances, but would it have been impossible?

Earlier studies have shown that the total number of animals in question are less than the millions the detractors envision. Noah was told to take two of each “kind” of animal on board, probably represented by today’s “families” or “genera” rather than species. For instance, the dog “kind” includes many species—wolf, domestic dog, dingo, coyote, etc. Furthermore, most animal types are small, only a few dozen are large, making the average size something on the order of a cat. (John Woodmorappe’s excellent book, *Noah’s Ark: A Feasibility Study*, looks into this issue in depth.) The great majority of today’s animals live in the sea and did not need to be on board.

But how about those inside? Cooped up for months, pitching and rolling with the Ark, surrounded by the noise of the storm and the presence of other animals (Genesis 7:21–22). How would they cope? And what about the meat-eaters?

It’s well known that all animals can survive on a meatless diet. Care must be taken to satisfy their nutritional needs, but it is possible. Some carnivores even choose a vegetarian lifestyle. Other animal studies have noted that some animals, such as the bear, hibernate to survive times of undue stress. Many other animals (and perhaps nearly all) are able to enter into a

period of relative dormancy or estivation when faced with a danger they cannot overcome and from which they cannot flee. In such a state they require minimal food and exercise, and excrete little. In such a state, aggressive tendencies are ignored. The presence of a common, overwhelming predicament eliminates former predator/prey relationships.

Scripture actually hints at such a situation. Noah was told to build an Ark equipped with “rooms” for the animals. (Genesis 6:14). But the Hebrew word used is everywhere else rendered “nests,” as in (Deuteronomy 32:11) where it applies to birds, but it’s also applied to a place of rest and safety for humans too (Job 29:18). Is this an indication that the animals were to merely snuggle up and wait until the danger was over?

There is no way of knowing, of course, because this was a unique event, not repeatable nor testable in the present and the only One who knows didn’t give us all the details. But wouldn’t it be just like Noah’s gracious God to make the job easier for him?

One final thought. The origin of this mysterious hibernation ability has no ready explanation in science. Might we not suppose that the loving Creator endowed animals onboard the Ark with this survival mechanism? There was probably no need for such an ability before the Flood. All animals today are descended from those on the Ark and all have inherited it. Since science has no better explanation for its origin, this supposition, which fits all the facts, should be given due consideration. 



© 2005 by ICR • All Rights Reserved

Single Copies 10¢ • Order from: **INSTITUTE FOR CREATION RESEARCH**

P.O. Box 2667, El Cajon, CA 92021 • Available for download on our website (www.icr.org).