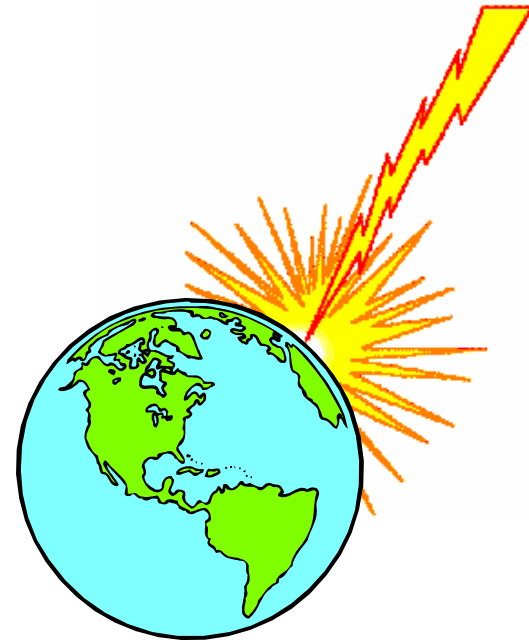


DID GOD DIRECT EVOLUTION ?



**Serious questions for
Christians and scientists**

by

**Charles H. Voss, Jr.
Ph.D.**

Visit us on the Internet at
<http://www.originsresource.org>

THE AUTHOR

Charles Henry Voss, Jr. was born of American missionary parents in China. He grew up in Baton Rouge, La. and obtained a B.S. and a M.S. in Electrical Engineering from LSU. His Ph.D. was obtained from North Carolina State University. He is now a F.J.Haydel,Jr./ Kaiser Aluminum Professor in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering at LSU.

His research and publications were in the biomedical area and include heart pacemakers, artificial hearts, and biotelemetry applications.

Dr. Voss heard his first facts supporting creation in the late sixties. He “got hooked” on the subject and has been actively involved since then in extensive reading, lecturing and teaching short courses. He considers creation research and Bible study as avocations and believes that he can show logically that God does exist.

Dr. Voss is available for lectures and seminars on creation. Inquiries should be made to:

Dr. Charles H. Voss, Jr.
5823 Clematis Drive
Baton Rouge, LA 70808
(504) 766-3098

eeprof@lawired.com

APPENDIX II

The concept of man being a spiritual being has no meaning if he evolved. Spirituality is nothing more than imagination. In contrast, the Bible tells us that man died spiritually (i.e., became separated from God) when he sinned, because God in His perfection would not tolerate rebellious man any more than He would Satan.

Nevertheless, God wanted man to reestablish a relationship with Him by believing and trusting in Him again and acknowledging and paying a price for his sin. In the Old Testament, this restoration could be obtained by recognizing the sin and sacrificing a living animal such as a lamb. This did not forgive the sin but temporarily made amends for it. Even so, God knew that man with his sinful nature would not be aware of all of his many sins and would always be behind on his sacrifices. In His love for His creatures He devised the final solution to man's sin problem, whereby all sins could be washed away forever. The New Testament tells about this plan in John 3:14-18(NIV).

14. *“Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the desert, so the Son of Man must be lifted up,*
15. *that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life.*
16. *For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.*
17. *For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.*
18. *Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because he has not believed in the name of God's one and only Son.”*

God sent His Son to die by crucifixion for all of our past, present and future sins. Notice that this action of God the Father which can result in eternal life is a gift. We can do nothing to earn it. The only requirement is that we “believe in” Jesus Christ as our savior.

This is not just acknowledgment that Jesus was a great man, or mental assent that He died for us lost sinners. The Greek word for “believe in” means to trust, rely upon, and have confidence in.

Have you trusted in, relied upon, and had confidence as Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior? If so, you are on your way to heaven. If not, there's no better day than today!

Did God Direct Evolution ?

Copyright © March, 1993

Charles H. Voss, Jr.
5823 Clematis Drive
Baton Rouge, Louisiana
70808-8802

eeprof@lawired.com

INTRODUCTION

Did God direct evolution? Many times this question is confused with “*Could* God have directed evolution?” Obviously, God could have directed evolution but this has absolutely nothing to do with whether God *did* direct evolution. In an attempt to reconcile evolution and creation some people give God the credit for evolution. It seems to answer the creation/evolution controversy by allowing both evolution and creation to be true. Can both be valid? Let’s examine them.

TERMS DEFINED

Creation is the sudden appearance of an organism in its completed form. Evolution, on the other hand, is the gradual changing of one organism to another over a long period of time.

Let us look at the main facts upon which evolution and creation are dependent. What are the mechanisms that make them happen?

THE PROBLEM OF DEATH’S ORIGIN

Physical death is a natural part of the evolution process. Darwin proposed the idea of natural selection, or “survival of the fittest” as it is often called, to explain how evolution might have taken place. Natural selection is dependent upon random chance happenings such as food supply, weather, geological happenings, disease, etc. Natural selection implies death. After all, if the more fit survive, the less fit must not; they die. According to evolution, death was present in the world before man

Smyrna fig, Cleaner fish and shrimp, ants and certain orchids, ants and a British blue butterfly, ants and Acacia tree, etc.

D. COSMIC

1. The universe is lumpy. This is contrary to what is expected of the big bang theory’s explosion of hydrogen atoms. Why should there be lumps in an explosion involving only the same size atomic particles?
2. There is incredible order in the universe much beyond what can be expected by chance. How does an explosion create order?
3. The first and second laws of thermodynamics are not upheld in the big bang hypothesis. These two laws are among the most documented of all the laws.
4. The universe consists almost entirely of hydrogen instead of helium. If the universe is as old as supposed, there should be very little hydrogen left.
5. Recent studies suggest the speed of light was much faster in the past. This invalidates the evolutionary measurement of time in the universe.
6. There are major problems and contradictions in establishing the age of the earth and universe. Ninety percent of the known indicators of the earth’s age say the earth is young while only ten percent give old ages to the earth. There are problems with the old age indicators.
7. The evolution of the first 8 elements defies reasonable explanation by the big bang hypothesis.

For those interested in learning more details about the facts supporting creation, the following books give a good easily readable introduction. All books are available from : Master Books, P.O. Box 1606, El Cajon, CA 92021

- “Origins Answer Book,” Paul S. Taylor (Heavily referenced)
- “What Is Creation Science,” Henry M. Morris and Gary E. Parker
- “The Collapse of Evolution,” Scott M. Huse

handed molecules whereas most sugars in living things are composed of only right-handed molecules. Logic says they should be evenly distributed between right and left-handed molecules since this is how they occur naturally. How were they separated?

4. Living organisms immediately start decomposing (changing to a lower chemical state) upon death. How did they get to their living state?
5. Unfavorable reactions exist between most of the building blocks of a living cell so that the cell could not have evolved in a piecemeal fashion.
6. Geological evidence contradicts the idea of a primordial reducing atmosphere, a necessary condition for evolution.
7. So-called life-producing experiments done by Miller, Harada & Fox, and Kenyon & Steinman have only produced amino acids under laboratory conditions (planning, purpose, design). The steps from amino acid to protein to living organism are nowhere close to being produced in a laboratory. Even if they were, this would not prove evolution because of the planning, purpose, and design necessary to do the experiment.

C. BIOLOGICAL

1. Most mutations are harmful. Under the best of conditions only one in one thousand mutations is favorable. How do you get the complexity and order we see from something that is predominately going downhill?
2. You cannot make a plum the size of a basketball or the size of a pea. There are limitations on how much change can be produced by mutations.
3. Unusual organs and capabilities that cannot be reasonably explained by evolution are present in organisms. Some examples are: bombardier beetle, woodpecker's tongue, an eye, a feather, a millipede that uses hydrogen cyanide gas for defense, soil mold that captures nematodes, etc.
4. Numerous symbiotic relationships exist among organisms. Examples are yucca plant and yucca moth, Chalcid wasp and

appeared and was a part of the supposed evolutionary steps from the ape family to man. There is every reason to expect that death was always a part of man's existence if evolution is true.

In the biblical creation story man appeared suddenly on the sixth day. He was created and God, his Creator, did not intend for him to die of natural causes but to live forever. The Bible implies this idea when God acted to prevent Adam from eating of the tree of life and living forever.¹

The Bible teaches that physical death originated with Adam as a result of sin. God tells Adam "*dust you are and to dust you will return.*"² The Bible is describing physical death, not spiritual death, since it refers to Adam returning to dust. In the biblical creation story God did not create man to die from natural causes. Man caused his physical and spiritual death when he disobeyed God. If sin was not the cause of man's death, the Bible's teaching concerning salvation³ is pointless.

As we have seen, a part of evolution is the existence of death without sin. This contradicts the biblical account

1. *And the Lord God said, "The man has now become like one of us, knowing good and evil. He must not be allowed to reach out his hand and take also from the tree of life and eat, and live forever." So the Lord God banished him from the Garden of Eden to work the ground from which he had been taken. (Genesis 3:22-23 NIV)*

2. *"By the sweat of your brow you will eat your food until you return to the ground, since from it you were taken; for dust you are and to dust you will return." (Genesis 3:19 NIV)*

3. *See Appendix II*

of man's original sin, God's curse of death and the resulting need for a savior. Apple pie with the apples left out is not apple pie. In the same sense, Christianity without death resulting from man's sin is not Christianity.

If a Christian embraces God-directed evolution as an explanation for life on earth, he faces several other serious problems. One is the accuracy of Genesis.

THE ACCURACY OF GENESIS

A problem facing the Christian who endorses God-directed evolution is raised by this question, "If God participated in or directed evolution, why didn't He give the correct story in the first chapter of Genesis?" It would have been very easy for God to have confirmed evolution by saying "*something gradually developed*" instead of using the words "*created,*" "*made*" and "*formed.*" He could have used the words "*after a while*" instead of using "*the evening and the morning were the first day*" when talking about time. For instance, verse 20 of Genesis 1 (NIV) could read, "And God said, 'After a while the waters gradually began to teem with all sorts of living creatures and birds began to appear and fly across the expanse of the sky.'"

Some people maintain that the first chapter of Genesis is allegorical in an attempt to explain away the conflicts. The question then arises, "Why use false information in an allegorical story?" It is so easy to tell the truth as just demonstrated. Would not the story be much more effective if it used true facts so one could draw accurate parallels?

Closely related to this is that the chronology and facts of Genesis are in conflict with evolution as shown in the following table:

9. Human-appearing sandal prints have been found in supposedly 600-million-year old rock--a 600-million year discrepancy.
10. Out of place fossils exist world-wide without any reasonable explanation by evolutionists.
11. Modern day survivors of fossilized organisms are similar in structure to their ancestors. There is no evidence of evolution.
12. No new phyla, classes, or orders have appeared in millions of years.
13. Mammoths and many other animals have been found frozen in the Arctic and Antarctic. A mammoth had been frozen so suddenly that partially chewed tropical plant life was in its mouth. How could these animals have existed in these regions without a canopy* causing uniform earth climate? The collapse of the canopy can explain their present state.

B. BIOCHEMICAL

1. One of the least complex bacteria's DNA is so complex that the probability of it coming about by chance is 1 chance in 10^{78000} . It could not have evolved! Mathematicians say that any number greater than 10^{50} is considered impossible. The bacteria's DNA consists of 750,000 bases and 750,000 sugar/phosphate combinations which must assemble accidentally in a precise order in an area less than one-thousandth of a cubic inch.
2. The instructions necessary for a cell or bacteria to duplicate itself and its DNA are contained in the DNA. How did the first living organism come into being under these circumstances?
3. Most amino acids in living things are composed of only left-

- * The canopy theory proposes that a shield or layer of water, probably vapor, completely surrounded the earth in the past in the same sense that we see a shield around Venus today. This caused a uniform earth's temperature, increased atmospheric pressure, decreased harmful radiation, and many lesser effects. The result was very lush vegetation and numerous animals on a worldwide basis.

APPENDIX I

On the following pages are a partial listing of facts that present major problems for evolution but confirm creation. This is presented to inform the reader of the abundance of information supporting creation.

NOTE: The author has a number of videos on various aspects of creation and is glad to loan them to interested persons. You are encouraged to write for additional information (address on page 16).

A. GEOLOGICAL

1. Cambrian strata (next to the bottom strata) has 60 genera of plant life plus most of the phyla of invertebrates and a few vertebrates.
2. There are many gaps in the fossil record. No missing links have been found.
3. An iron hammer with unusual metallurgy has been found in what is said to be 400-million-year old rock-- a 400-million-year discrepancy.
4. Coal, oil, and gas can be made in the laboratory from organic matter under relatively low temperatures and pressures in a short time. Millions of years were not necessary for formation.
5. Large coal deposits have been found bedded on granite. Coal results from growing vegetation. Vegetation does not grow on granite.
6. Man-like footprints and dinosaur footprints have been found together in the same rock strata -- a 70 million year discrepancy.
7. Polystrate tree fossils exist all over the world. These are trees fossilized vertically through several geologic strata.
8. Organisms once thought extinct because of the fossil record have been found alive. Why were their remains not found fossilized in the upper rock strata?

CONTRADICTIONS BETWEEN BIBLICAL CREATION AND EVOLUTION

The Bible Says:	Biblical Creation Says:	Evolution Says:
1. Matter was created in the beginning	Yes	No, Matter Existed
2. Day/night cycle before sun	Yes	No, Sun First
3. Earth before sun and stars	Yes	No, Opposite
4. Cosmos occurred by design	Yes	No, By Accident
5. Atmosphere under water canopy	Yes	No
6. Oceans before land	Yes	No, Opposite
7. Plants before sun	Yes	No, Opposite
8. Land plants are first forms of life	Yes	No, Marine Life
9. Fruit trees before fish	Yes	No, Opposite
10. Birds before reptiles	Yes	No, Opposite
11. Birds before insects	Yes	No, Opposite
12. Man before woman	Yes	No, Opposite
13. Man before rain	Yes	No

The Bible Says:	Biblical Creation Says:	Evolution Says:
14. Man the cause of struggle and death	Yes	No
15. Man is degenerating	Yes	No
16. Man and dinosaurs lived together (Job 40:15-24,41)	Yes	No
17. Man and earth came into existence thousands of years ago	Yes	No, Earth 4.6 billion years ago

Those believing in God-directed evolution need to resolve the above contradictions with a reasonable explanation of why God gave them to Moses this way. Is it not out of character for God to mislead His creatures?

WHAT CHRIST BELIEVED

Another problem facing the Christian who endorses God-directed evolution is that Jesus spoke of divine creation as fact. He believed that the scriptures were the word of the Father and quoted from them freely. He used words like “*at the beginning of creation*”⁴ and “*when God created the world.*”⁵ As the Son of God who spoke

4. *But at the beginning of creation God made them male and female. Mark 10:6 (NIV)*

5. *...because those will be days of distress unequalled from the beginning, when God created the world, until now — and never to be equalled again. Mark 13:19 (NIV)*

SUMMARY

The points made in this paper can be summarized as follows:

1. The Bible implies that man was not supposed to die and that death came into existence after man sinned, whereas evolution admits that death existed before man.
2. God could have altered the wording of Genesis 1 to reflect evolution if it had so happened.
3. Jesus believed the universe was created.
4. The biblical writers believed in creation.
5. The two theories contradict each other.
6. The complexity of organisms implies a creator.
7. The fossil evidence supports creation and contradicts evolution.

The evidence makes it impossible to merge biblical creation and evolution into a single theory such as theistic evolution. God-directed evolution seems plausible on the surface, but it is in conflict with the biblical record.

The sin committed in the Garden of Eden was far more than eating forbidden fruit. It was doubting God who said death was a punishment for disobedience. Satan insisted that God did not mean what He said and that they would not die. Today Satan is still prodding man with the same idea. He insists on promoting God-directed evolution to convince man that God does not mean what He says in Genesis. If he can convince us that God did direct evolution, then he will have destroyed the validity of God’s word.

The above evidence adequately answers our opening question. God did *not* direct evolution!

all types of organisms were created at the beginning and available for entrapment and fossilization. What does the record show? The scientists who study the fossil record have found a literal explosion of life in the second from the bottom geologic layer. The few fossils that appear in the bottom layer do not appear to be related to those right above them.

Since evolution is a “gradually changing” process there should be fossils with partially-developed limbs, wings, and organs. For instance, there should be evidence of a snake changing to a lizard or a snake with a partial leg. We should expect such transitional species or so called “missing links.” Creation implies there should be no transitional species since each organism appeared complete. There should be no missing links, which is what the scientists have found. The absence of missing links favors creation.

We defined creation as the sudden appearance of an organism in its complete form. Even the simplest living organisms are so complex it is impossible to conceive of them except in the context of a supernatural intelligence. For instance, one of the simplest bacteria’s DNA has one and one-half million (1,500,000) specific chemical pieces that must be assembled in a very precise order. (See Appendix I:B:1). This is about 60 times as many letters as are in this pamphlet. It is logical to assume that a superior intelligence, a creator, was necessary to make such a “simple” organism.

Other difficulties in the areas of biology and cosmology are given in Appendices I:C and I:D.

for the Father, why did He say that God created everything if God did not? Jesus would have corrected the creation story had Moses made an error in Genesis or had there been a translation error just as He corrected the Pharisees for their false teachings. Thus those who believe Jesus to be deity are forced to believe that the creation story of Genesis is fact and is a divine expression of what happened.

THE NEW TESTAMENT WRITERS

In addition to questioning the credibility of Jesus, God-directed evolution also raises questions about the writings of the New Testament authors. Paul clearly refers to creation when he says, “*for since the beginning of the world*”⁶, “*He made the universe*”⁷, and “*all things were created*”⁸. Peter uses the words, “*since the beginning of creation*”⁹, and John refers to creation when

-
6. *For since the creation of the world God’s invisible qualities - his eternal power and divine nature - have been seen, being understood from what has been made, so that men are without excuse. Romans 1:20 (NIV)*
 7. *....but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom he made the universe. Hebrews 1:2 (NIV)*
 8. *For by him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by him and for him. Colossians 1:16 (NIV)*
 9. *They will say, “Where is this coming he promised? Ever since our fathers died, everything goes on as it has since the beginning of creation.” But they deliberately forget that long ago by God’s word the heavens existed and the earth was formed out of water and with water. By water also the world of that time was deluged and destroyed. II Peter 3:4-6 (NIV)*

he writes, “*through Him all things were made.*”¹⁰ These writers believed that the Old Testament came from God through His prophets and that the Genesis account of creation was a literal expression of how it was done.

EVOLUTION’S DIFFICULT DETAILS

Returning to the basic definitions of evolution and creation we discover another set of problems in trying to combine the two theories into theistic (God-directed) evolution. We defined creation as the sudden appearance of an organism in its completed form. Evolution is the gradual changing of one organism to another over a long period of time. In comparing these two definitions what could be further apart than something “gradually changing” versus “suddenly appearing”? Creation implies perfect organisms of varying complexity which require no change, whereas evolution implies imperfect organisms which are continually changing with time. It is impossible to reconcile these two ideas into a single concept.

Continuing our thoughts as to what makes evolution happen, we noted earlier that it is dependent upon natural selection, death, and random chance. Darwin used the idea that everything happened at the same rate in the past as it is happening today. From this idea it follows that evolution requires a long time for simple things to become complex. As science advanced, it was discovered that Darwin’s proposals did not adequately explain evolution. Mutations, viruses, and bacteria were discovered after Darwin’s death and were added to his theory in an attempt to explain how evolution could take

place. These still do not adequately explain evolution (See Appendix I). New theories such as “punctuated equilibrium” and the “hopeful monster” are proposed to help explain the discrepancy between what actually appears in the fossil record and what evolution predicts.

The “punctuated equilibrium” and “hopeful monster” theories are an attempt by evolutionists to explain the gaps or lack of transitional forms in the fossil record. Punctuated equilibrium proposes that transitional changes occurred so rapidly at times that new species appear suddenly without leaving any evidence. The hopeful monster theory proposes that many changes occurred at the same time and so a dinosaur laid an egg and a bird hatched out. Strangely, the proof of these two theories relies on the fact that there is no evidence for them. This is science?

The fossil record also poses some severe problems for evolution (See Appendix I:A). Evolution supposes that life started with a single cell organism which gradually changed to the many organisms we know today. Our only record of whether this is true or not is in the various layers of sediment laid down in the past by flood waters in which these organisms were trapped and fossilized. If evolution is valid, the deepest sedimentary layers should contain only one or two-celled organisms, since that was all that should have been alive in the beginning. As we move toward the surface of the earth, there should be increasing numbers of more advanced organisms in the sediments because there were more types of organisms available to be trapped in these upper layers.

But if Biblical creation occurred, the fossil distribution should be essentially the opposite. That is, the deepest sedimentary layers should show many life forms since

10. *He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. John 1:2-3 (NIV)*