

# Evolution and the Bible

| The Evolutionary Scenario   | The Biblical Record  |
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| Space, matter, and time are, for all practical purposes, eternal.   | There was a period when there was no time, space, or matter. (Genesis 1:1; cf. Hebrews 1:2)  |
| Light is as eternal as the universe.  | The earth was first formed in total darkness; light was created later on the first day. (Genesis 1:1-3)  |
| When the earth was first formed, it was very hot.   | The earth was formed with a cool water surface from the beginning. (Genesis 1:2; 2 Peter 3:5)  |
| The original atmosphere was reducing (methane, ammonia, and other poisonous gases) and gradually changed into the oxidizing (oxygen and nitrogen) type as we know it today. | The atmosphere was formed quickly and has always been essentially the same as it is today. (Genesis 1:6-8)   |
| Plant life produced the atmosphere as we know it today.   | The atmosphere preceded all plant life. (Genesis 1:6-12)   |
| The first life evolved in the sea, then moved to the land.  | The first life was created on land, followed by sea life. (Genesis 1:11-13, 20-23)   |
| There is, or at least there should be, a continuum (a continuous transition) between plant species.   | Plants were created in distinct species, "after its kind." (Genesis 1:11-12)   |
| It took a long time for plants to evolve.   | Plants were created with seeds and fruit on the first day of their existence. (The Biblical doctrine of a creation with the appearance of age). (Genesis 1:11-12)                    |
| The earth (or any planet) is a later phase in cosmic evolution.   | Earth was formed first, in darkness; nothing else was in space beside the earth. Three days later, the sun and the solar system and the galaxies were formed. (Genesis 1:1-2, 14-19) |
| Earth is a relatively insignificant grain of sand in a sea of stellar galaxies.   | The earth is the center of the universe (theologically), and the rest of the planets and galaxies are peripheral to the earth and subservient to man's needs. (Genesis 1:14-15)      |

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| Life began with simple creatures and progressed to the more complex mammals.   | The first animals created included “great whales” – highly developed mammals – and then the so-called “lower forms.” (Genesis 1:21)      |
| Reptiles evolved into birds.   | Birds were created before “creeping things.” (Genesis 1:20-24)   |
| There is, or should be, a continuum among the animal species   | Animals were created in distinct species “after its kind.” (Genesis 1:21)  |
| There is, or should be, little difference between the higher animals (apes) and man.   | The primates (“beasts of the earth”) and man are referred to as distinct kinds. (Genesis 1:24-27)  |
| The fossil record speaks of death and destruction from the very beginning.   | God created everything so that “it was good.” Death did not come until the Fall. (Genesis 1:31; Romans 5:12)                             |
| Man was created in the image of apes.  | Man was created in the image of God. (Genesis 1:26-27)   |
| Evolution took place over billions of years.   | Creation took place in 6 literal days of 24 hours each. (Genesis 1)  |
| Evolution is a continuous process.   | God finished His creative activity on the 6 <sup>th</sup> day and is no longer involved in completing the created order. (Genesis 2:1-3) |
| The present is the key to the past (uniformitarianism = the scientific assumption that the natural processes operating in the past are the same as those that can be observed operating in the present.) | God works suddenly and completely, and sometimes uses major and catastrophic events. (Genesis 1-2; 6-8; 11)                              |
| Early animals were carnivorous (meat eaters).  | Early animals were herbivorous (plant eaters) and did not become carnivorous until after either the Fall or the Flood. (Genesis 1:29-30) |
| It has always rained upon the earth.   | Prior to the flood there was no rain. (Genesis 2:5-6; Hebrews 11:7)  |
| Man was formed from one of the lower animals.  | Man was formed from the dust (Genesis 2:7)   |

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| One of the lower animals was already alive when it became man and God merely added a soul.  | God breathed the “breath of life” into the nostrils of a dead object and it became alive. (Genesis 2:7)   |
| There really is no one individual we can call “Adam”; the term refers to a race of early-evolved men.   | The inspired writers of both Testaments clearly speak of Adam as an individual, not a race of people. (1 Chronicles 1:1; Romans 5:12-19; 1 Corinthians 15:21)                                       |
| Agriculture was developed late in the evolutionary history of man.  | The first and only responsibility of Adam was to tend the Garden of Eden. (Genesis 2:9, 15-16) Cain, his son, was a farmer by occupation. (Genesis 4:2)   |
| Language took a long time to develop in man.  | Man was created with an enormous vocabulary and grammar and was conducting intelligent conversations from the beginning. (Genesis 2:18-24)  |
| Since Adam evolved out of one of the animals, there is very little difference in the psychological makeup of animals and man. (This is a fundamental premise of modern psychology). | Man was created so distinct from the animals that he was unable to find one physically or emotionally compatible with him. (Genesis 2:20)   |
| Woman, like man, evolved out of an animal.  | Eve was a direct act of special creation, taken from the side of Adam, not another animal (Genesis 2:21-23)   |
| Marriage is a developed cultural institution.   | Marriage was instituted by God for the first couple. (Genesis 2:24)   |
| Man has been in existence only the last 1/1500 <sup>th</sup> of the earth’s history.  | Man has existed, for all practical purposes, from the beginning of the creation, and did not come after billions of years of cosmic and biological evolution (Matthew 19:4; Mark 10:6; Romans 1:20) |
| The Garden of Eden is a myth.   | All inspired Biblical writers understood Eden to be a literal place. (Ezekiel 28:13; 36:35; Joel 2:3, Amos 1:5)   |

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| <p>The Cain and Abel incident is a myth; we cannot ascribe these events to any known individuals.</p> | <p>Hebrews 11 lists O.T. individuals who are cited as examples of faith. One of these is Abel, who is contrasted to Cain as a negative example (Hebrews 11:4). Jesus verified the historicity of the death of Abel in Matthew 23:35 and Luke 11:51; cf. 1 John 3:12</p>   |
| <p>Early man was quite primitive and technologically immature.</p>                                    | <p>Early civilizations, within only a few hundred years of man's creation, were already building sophisticated musical instruments (Genesis 4:21) and refining alloys in blast furnaces (Genesis 4:22). Note also the technology involved in building Noah's Ark (Genesis 6:14-16) and the Tower of Babel (Genesis 11:3-6).</p> |