

Darwin – 150 Years of Error

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Slide 1

How many of you are familiar with the works and publications of the Apologetics Press? This is a great work of brothers and sisters in Christ in defense of the teachings of the Bible, especially the Creation account.

Their website is, www.apologeticspress.org and they have a monthly publication called “Reason and Revelation” that every Christian should read.

(NOTE: you can go to the website and print off a copy of this article if you do not have one)

This month’s publication has a great article in it, and which is the basis for **my lesson this morning, titled.....**

Slide 2

“Darwin in Light of 150 Years of Error” by Brothers Kyle Butt and Eric Lyons. In case you missed it, Charles Darwin’s 200th birthday was Feb. 12, 2009 and it seems that the scientific community is using its entire arsenal of resources to celebrate the life and writings of Charles Darwin.

The cover story in January’s publication of, *Scientific American*’s is titled: “The Evolution of Evolution: How Darwin’s Theory Survives, Thrives, and Reshapes the World.”

In the editor’s note that introduces the issue, John Rennie wrote: “Today, 200 years after his birth and 150 years after *Origin of Species*, Darwin’s legacy is a larger, richer, more diverse set of theories than he could have imagined”

There are hundreds of websites that inform viewers of the many events that are scheduled (were scheduled) in 21 different countries in celebration Darwin’s birthday. The celebration doesn’t stop on his birthday for there are

events planned through out the year. In fact, **this sample page of www.darwinday.org has events scheduled up through the year 2011...**

Slide 3 (Sample Website)

With so much focus being placed on Charles Darwin and his theory of evolution, it is a good time to analyze his writings and ideas.

Is it true that Darwin has left a legacy worthy to be celebrated?

Or is it the case that Darwin's ideas were not only wrong, but also harmful in that they have provided the basis for devaluing human life and erroneous scientific study?

200 years after the birth of Charles Darwin and 150 years after the publication of his book, "The Origin of the Species", and after decades of evolution being taught as fact in our schools, in our TV programs and scientific journals and publications, what percentage of people do you think believes in Evolution?

Well, it just so happens that the Gallop poll just took a survey on the subject of evolution and the results might surprise you....

And the survey says....

Slide 4 (The Survey Says...)

This is great news! If you listen to radio, watch TV or read newspapers and scientific publications you would think that everyone believes in evolution except just a handful of people, fortunately, that is not the case. The poll was taken on February 6-7, 2009 and is very enlightening.

Let's take a look at **some of the results....**

Slides 5-9 (Survey Results)

Make commits about each slide. (At the end of slide 9 say...)

What are some of the **implications of Darwin's theory of evolution?....**

Slide 10 (Implications)

Read Slide

It is encouraging that even though evolution is being taught as fact everywhere you look, the majority of the people still do not believe in it and there are some good reasons.

The publication “Reason and Revelation”, states that there are several “glaring deficiencies of Darwin’s theory”.

Before we take a look at some of them there are a couple of terms that we need to define and understand.

A Professor at the Department of Biological Sciences at Texas Tech University, **Michael Dini, stated...**

Slides 11 & 12 (Prof. Michael Dini)

Read Slide

Notice the phrase, “micro- and macro-evolution” (as you say this click on next slide to highlight the phrase “micro- and macro-evolution”)

It is important that we know the **difference between micro and macro-evolution....**

Slide 13 (Mirco & Macro Evolution)

Read Slide

Micro-evolution is a fact, macro-evolution is not. Micro-evolution is observable, macro-evolution is not. This has never been disputed by anyone who understands what micro-evolution is. We will talk more about this a little later. But first a little background on Charles Darwin.

Did you know that Charles Darwin did not always believe in evolution? In fact, at one time he believed in God as the Creator. **He wrote in his autobiography...**

Slide 14 (Darwin Believed Bible)

He believed that the Bible was man's complete authority, but as he grew older, he changed his view and began to think that natural forces created the world. He described his "**deconversion**" by stating...

Slide 15 (Darwin Deconversion)

Sadly, one of the reasons for his change in thinking came from a misunderstanding of the Bible.

In Darwin's day, the Church of England misunderstood the biblical account of Creation. The book of Genesis says that animals multiply "according to their kind".

Let's look at **some verses from Genesis 1...**

Slides 16 & 17

Read both Slides

Notice the word "kind" that is used over and over again, it is talking about a group or family of plants or animals.

Back in Darwin's day, the Church of England confused the biblical word "kind" with the word "species." They taught, that God at creation, had created every separate species, or variation of plant and animal, in the world.

This idea was called the "fixity of species." The problem with this view was that it simply is not true; and leads to misinterpretation of the Bible and skews man's perception of nature.

Therefore, Darwin failed to recognize that God has placed limits to the amount of change that can take place in nature. God only allows for changes to take place within its own "kind".

In the Old Testament the Hebrew word for "kind" is min (meen) and is used 21 times to speak of the "kinds" of plants and animals. In Genesis the created "min" were said to reproduce each after its own kind, thus, suggesting strict reproductive limits.

The word “kind” is not speaking about each individual species of plant and animal but each group or family of plant or animal.

For example, God created the dog family. There are several different breeds of dogs that range from a toy poodle to a Great Dane. God also created the horse family and there are many different breeds of horses from a miniature pony to a Clydesdale!

There is always one thing that we notice.....no matter the changes that take place through the breeding of different types of dogs you always get a dog! No matter the changes that take place through the breeding of different types of horses you always get a horse!

God has placed limits to change within each “kind”. **We can see this in “Darwin’s Finches”....**

Slide 18 (Darwin’s Finches)

When Charles Darwin visited the Galapagos Islands, he discovered something that greatly interested him. He found several different species of finches which were unique to the islands. The basic difference between these species was the size and shape of their beaks.

Some of the finches had short thick beaks, while others had long, thin beaks. As he studied the birds, he came to the conclusion that the finches were very similar and must have been related. In fact, Darwin believed that the finches had originally diverged from a single species of bird.

Darwin concluded that the birds with long beaks stayed together and ate insects, while the birds with short, stout beaks were able to survive in different places on the islands where they could find seeds.

Eventually, due to drought, climate change, and environmental pressures, each group became its own species through the process of natural selection.

Darwin then rationalized that if nature could change one species of finch into several different species, then, if given enough time, it could change an amoeba into a man.

Here Darwin made a major mistake in his thinking. He did not realize that God only allows changes to take place within its own kind.

So today, the generally accepted definition for the concept of evolution as proposed by **Darwin is...**

“huge genetic changes turning one kind of animal into another” or what is called macro-evolution.

But what Darwin saw in the finches was **simply...**

“small changes within the same kind of organism.” or micro-evolution.

God has allowed changes to be made within its own “kind”, such as the changing of the size and shape of the finch’s beaks.

But no matter what changes that Darwin saw in the finches, they were still finches!

Scientific observation has never produced a single shred of evidence that proves even the possibility of “huge genetic changes turning one kind of animal into another.”

In fact, all the observable evidence proves just the opposite, that every living organism reproduces “according to its kind”, exactly as stated in Genesis 1.

But evolutionists still insist that given enough time, beneficial mutations do happen and they provide the driving force behind nature being able to produce new creatures.

But mutations are extremely rare. In fact, the overwhelming majority of mutations that do happen are so detrimental to the mutant organism that the organism often dies before it has the ability to pass on its genes.

It is true, that in the rarest of cases, a “good” mutation does happen and that advantage slips into the gene pool.

Since this “beneficial” mutation aids the organism’s survival and reproductive ability, more offspring are produced that have the mutation, such as, the changes in the beaks of the finches.

According to evolutionist, millions upon millions of these types of mutations have taken place over billions of years and have produced all the plants and animals that we have today!

When asked why we do not see this process taking place today, we are told that it simply happens too slowly, and cannot be tested or witnessed in a single human generation, or even in hundreds of years.

Some scientists have thought what if, we could find some way to introduce millions upon millions of mutations into an organism's gene pool?

Could we then select the "beneficial" mutations and produce our own, humanly initiated, evolving creatures?

If evolution is actually true, and we could find an organism that could be genetically manipulated satisfactorily, then we should be able to "reproduce" evolution in a lab!

Such a creature has been found! **Enter the fruit fly!...**

Slide 19 (Fruit Fly)

The common fruit fly has several characteristics that make it the perfect specimen for laboratory mutation experiments.

First, the female fly is extremely fertile. She can potentially lay 100 eggs a day, up to 2,000 eggs in her life.

Second, it grows from an egg to an adult in 10-12 days.

Third, they can produce up to 30 generations per year.

Due to these and other ideal traits, the fruit fly has been one of the most often used organisms in genetic mutation experiments.

Since the early 1900s, multiplied millions of fruit fly generations have been bred in laboratories around the world. Scientists performing these experiments have introduced fruit flies to various levels of radiation, chemicals and countless other factors designed to produce mutations.

What has been the result of all of these experiments?

Slide 20 (Fruit Fly Results)

Read Slide

And the list could go on for hundreds of pages.

So extensive have fruit fly experiments been, that the massive numbers of generations produced, and the mutations created, would be the equivalent of millions of years of supposed evolutionary time.

Furthermore, we must remember, that intelligent scientists have acted upon the mutations thus speeding up the accumulation of “beneficial” mutations.

If evolution by genetic mutation and natural selection really can occur, we should discover that the fruit fly has mutated into several new kinds of organisms. We should see creatures that are, at least, part fly and part something else.

But what is it that we see?...

Slide 21

Fruit Flies! That is **all** we see!

After 100 years of experimentation, thousands of lab-induced mutations in multiplied millions of flies, and scientists acting on those mutations, the world’s most brilliant minds have not been able to produce any creatures other than.....another fruit fly!

This has caused some stress to those who believe in evolution.

Norman Macbeth highlighted the late evolutionist Richard Goldschmidt’s thoughts concerning the experiments on the **fruit flies by stating...**

Slide 22 (Goldschmidt Despair)

The bottom line of all experiments ever done on fruit flies is **that they stayed fruit flies!**

The results of such experimentation “fly” in the face of evolution, but the results **are exactly what one would expect to find if the biblical story of Creation is true!**

Notice what he did call the changes that took place with the fruit flies....**micro!** Small changes within the “kind” not changes from one “kind” to another!

The final thing we want to notice about evolution is...

Slide 23 (Origin of life)

Read Slide

Darwin’s theory of evolution is false for a host of reasons, not the least of which is the fact that it cannot account for “how life began”. According to evolutionists, life began from non-life in a warm little chemical pond a few billion years ago.

Evolutionary scientist must recognize that the fundamental tenet of organic evolution is the idea that life originally arose from non-living material.

And that is exactly what had to happen in order for Darwin’s theory of evolution to be true, but notice what evolutionary scientists have to say **concerning this issue....**

Slide 24 (David Kirk)

Oh, really, you mean that even evolutionist recognize that life comes from life and not non-life? Yet, in order for evolution to be true then just the opposite has to be true.

George Gaylord Simpson had this to say....

Slide 25 (Gaylord Simpson)

Then in 2005, Dr. Robert Hazen, a well-respected origins-of-life researcher, produced a college-level course titled “Origins of Life.” In describing the course, he made several telling admissions.

He stated....

Slide 26 (Robert Hazen)

Then he further declared....

George Wald, the Harvard professor who was awarded the Nobel Prize for Physiology of Medicine, **wrote in *Biological Sciences...***

Slide 27 (Dr. Wald)

Well, it appears that Dr. Wald is a little confused, but I believe I have a solution to his problem of where life came from and his statement about spontaneous generation, **actually the answer is very simple...**

Slide 28 (In the Beginning...)

Read Slide

When God said, "Let there be light" there was light.

When God said, "Let there be a firmament in the midst of the waters" it was so.

When God said, "Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb *that* yields seed, and the fruit tree *that* yields fruit according to its kind, whose seed *is* in itself, on the earth"; it was so.

When God said, "Let the earth bring forth the living creature according to its kind: cattle and creeping thing and beast of the earth, *each* according to its kind"; it was so.

Yes, every time God said something it happened instantaneously, or should we say, in the words of Dr. Wald, "spontaneously".

But everything we see in the universe did not happen by accident, but was created by God, including You and Me!

God has given us His Word (Bible) so we can learn about Him and know what He expects of us.

We all have sinned (Rom. 2:23) and have been separated from God. But "God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life." (John 3:16)

To be saved we must hear, believe, repent, confess, be baptized and live godly lives and we will spend eternity with God!

>>>Make Closing Remarks<<<<

