

Philosophical Ramifications of Origin Models

(taken from Paul McKinney, 2000)

The issue of our origin philosophically comes down to one question .
Did God create man, or did man create God?

Today we will look at the differences between the models from a Christian perspective, imposing our belief system (the rest of this series will only look at scientific evidence.)

As we've discussed, %science+means %knowledge+and includes only that which we actually know, by direct observation and experience. We must strip away the philosophical assertions that are so frequently made about science as they are not science at all.

The %Scientific Method+is the process by which a scientific fact or law is proven. It necessarily involves experimental reproducibility and verification. If it cannot be tested then it cannot progress beyond the %Model+stage, hence we properly refer to evolution and creation as models.

Issue of Origins

- Man Centered - Evolution
- God Centered - Creation

Since neither of the above can be classified as a scientific theory (or even hypothesis), we can describe them in terms of models:

Evolution Model

- Naturalistic origin of all things. Chance, random mutation, natural selection. [chance + space + time = universe] . or translated, nothing + nothing + nothing = everything (absurd)
- Net basic increase in complexity over time. Unlimited vertical change.
- Earth history dominated by uniform events, Neo-catastrophy.

Scientific Creation Model

- Supernatural origin of all things. Design, purpose, interdependence, information.
- Net basic decrease in complexity over time. Limited horizontal change.
- Earth history dominated by catastrophic events.

Biblical Creation Model

- Special creation of all things by God in six solar days (Gen 1:1-31).
- The curse on all things because of sin (Gen 3:14-19).
- The global flood of Noah's day deposited the rocks and fossils (Gen 6-8).

Unasked question .

"How did the dinosaurs evolve into birds when an asteroid killed them all"?

Predictions of the Evolution Model

Transitional forms, beneficial mutations, things getting better, new species

Predictions of the Creation Model

Separate distinct kinds, intelligent design in nature, tendency for decay, extinction of species

Interpretive Theories of the Biblical Record

1. Naturalistic: Atheistic Evolution
2. Framework: Theistic Evolution
3. Day-Age: Equates geological ages with %Days of Genesis+
4. Gap: 5 billion year %gap+between Genesis 1:1 and 1:2.
5. Literalist: %For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea and all that is in themõ +Exodus 20:10

How Long is a Day?

%It cannot be denied, in spite of frequent interpretations of Genesis 1 that departed from the rigidly literal, that the almost universal view of the Christian world until the eighteenth century was that the Earth was only a few thousand years old. Not until the development of modern scientific investigation of the Earth itself would this view be called into question within the church.+

Christianity and the Age of the Earth,
Davis A. Young, 1982, p. 25

Biblical Creationism - Most Probable Range of Dates

Time Period	Min	Max
Creation to Flood	1656	2400
Flood to Abraham	300	4000
Abraham to Christ	2000	4000
Christ to Present	2000	2000
Total	6000	12,000

We have a %gap+between what the church states that it believes and what our children are taught in school (and we are subsequently bombarded with.) As the church retreated from scientific inquiry and debate (even creating our own publishing houses) we left the forum solely to the evolutionists. This has weakened the church, leaving many unable to defend their faith, and creating a safe %inking sand+for the lost to build upon.

What we will dive into over the next eight weeks is the resurgence of proper science demonstrating that the accepted theories of evolution cannot be demonstrated to have caused what they state. Today it is more accurate to believe evolution is not true from a purely scientific standpoint.