

Creation vs Evolution

BREIF REVIEW OF WORLDVIEW

Jason Lisle *Ultimate Proof*

“Worldview: a network of our most basic beliefs about reality in light of which all observations are interpreted” (25)

Good worldviews must: (37-38)

Be logically consistent (no internal contradictions)

Provide the preconditions of intelligibility (conditions that must be accepted as true before we can know anything about the universe)

(Robert Stewart, *Insufficiency of Naturalism*) A good worldview must meet these criteria:

1. Coherence
2. Correlation
3. Comprehensiveness
4. Consistency
5. Commitment

BECAUSE WE ALL HAVE WORLDVIEWS, WE ALL HAVE ASSUMPTIONS ABOUT THE WORLD, OURSELVES, OTHERS

Discuss assumptions for what we do

- Everything we see we see with a biased view
 - Depending on gender, age, background, family structure, friends, religion
 - We make assumptions about everything
 - Even if you think you don't, you are ASSUMING that you do not have any assumptions or underlying beliefs
 - There is no such thing as completely objective information
- Everyone looks at same evidence, comes up with different results
 - Creationists and Evolutionists
- The only way to determine which side to side with is based on the worldview of those people with the assumptions
- if the assumptions stem from a practical and logical worldview, that side should be favored
- ultimately, does not come down to evidence, but comes down to which side has the better world view in which to interpret the evidence?

-Define the terms we using

-Creationism

-The belief that God created the earth in 6 literal 24 hour days and all species of animals originated from certain kinds that God created. This God handcrafted two real people, Adam and Eve, roughly 6 to 10 thousands years ago and from them all humanity has descended

-Evolution

The belief that all life originated from a single self-replicating cell that appeared from matter several millions of years ago (the number changes often). Additionally, it believes the earth is somewhere between 4 and 14 billion years old (depends on the source)

-Needs 3 things:

1. Time
2. Mutations
3. Natural Selection (use people to illustrate nat select)
 - 2 parents
 - 2 kids
 - one mutation helped a kid
 - one mutation made things worse

-Gophers

- one leads to brown fur
- one leads to white
- Falcon able to see the white easier, eats them all
- the white gophers are eaten and die off while the brown ones survive
- the genetic code that has the brown info in it lives on while the white code dies off with the gophers

-Naturalism

-The philosophical worldview stemming from evolution that denies the existence of absolute truth, holds to the belief that all humans evolved from a single-celled organism, and incorporates the evolutionary tenets of survival of the fittest, natural selection and no ultimate authoritative Being into their thought process

Philosophically

MORALS

- If we are just collections of bodily systems that happened to survive death, disease and violence, then where do morals and truth come from?
- What standard are there for morals and virtues such as honesty, love, kindness?
- Why should we do good for people?
- Where did concepts like selflessness, love, charity, kindness, honesty come from?
- Evolution is built on the foundation of evil and violence, so there is no standard or basis for being upset about violence and random killings in the world
- In reality, "good" is whatever benefits you

SLIDE WITH QUOTE

PURPOSE

- Everything is ultimately futile and does not give any reason to do anything good for other people
- What purpose in life is there if evolution, and specifically, natural selection/naturalism is true?

LEE STROBEL QUOTE

Scientifically

Common Evidences used for Evolution:

1. Fossil Record

- Lucy (answersingenesis.org)
 - Donald Johnson found shinbone and thighbone
 - Thought they met at a angle of a bipedal animal
 - only 47 of 207 bones found, hands feet, skull mostly missing
 - More bones of her species found, and these toes curve like apes and hands similar to chimps
 - footprints found nearby, dated to 3.66 million years ago despite said to be just like human footprints
 - However, when the final form is considered, Lucy's pelvic arrangement would be to unstable
 - Plus, a walking ancestor would have been more vulnerable to attacks, probably would've died off
- Piltdown Man (Dr A J Monty White)
 - Skull and jawbone found in Germany, thought to be a Neanderthal
 - Found to be a fraud in 1953 by Dr Kenneth Oakley
 - the skull was human and jawbone/teeth were from an orangutan
- Nebraska man (Andrew Sibley)
 - tooth found in 1917
 - declared to be part of the ape-like human by the President of the American Museum of Natural History in New York
 - Discovered to be a pgs tooth
- Fossils don't show Evolution
 - Jennifer Viegas, a science writer said "The last common ancestor of chimpanzees and humans remains a holy grail to science" (Creation.com)
 - Dr. Colin Patterson, paleontologist and evolutionist, and Stephen Jay Gould, knows of no transitional fossils (Jonathan Sarfati)

2. Age of the Earth (Carbon, c-14 dating)

- Radioactive dating is main way of dating the earth geologically
- The way they date is by finding elements in usually a rock
- Carbon and c-14 only go back a few thousand years
- Many assumptions along with deciding age of the earth
 - Constant rate of decay
 - Nothing accelerating the decay
 - Accurately know the starting amount of element
 - Nothing added to the element

SLIDES ABOUT C-14

-other evidences:

- the moon moving away from the earth, at this rate it would've been too close to the earth millions of ears ago
- DNA in ancient fossils, DNA can't survive more than a few thousands years
- Decay in human genome consistent with thousands of years
- Comets still existing, if millions of years old they should've all burned

SLIDES ABOUT COMETS

3. DNA/Genetics

- we are said to share a 99% genetic similarity with chimps (creation.com)
 - However, the number ranges from 90-99% among scientists, not a consensus
- Common ancestor?
 - Does the genetic similarities prove that we are related?
- Common functionality?
 - Or could it suggest the similarities in functions we have?
 - Similarity does not always indicate same origin
- Genetic blueprint different behind apparent similarities (*Refuting Evolution*, Sarfati)
 - Expect similarities to be produced by common genetic program
 - Not always true
 - Human hands vs. Frog hands (similar genetics)
 - Human fingers grown from skin dissolving
 - Frog fingers grow out
- Y Chrom thought to be “leftover” from evolutionary history in man
- Affects genetic expression of thousands of genes (creation.com)
- Mitochondrial Eve (Possible to trace DNA pattern back to one person roughly 10,000 years ago)
 - all women have descended from a single woman
 - not prove, but suggests it

4. Mutation

- BEHE: change in DNA
- Mutations always remove information, never add to it
- Mutations don't increase, take away from DNA, sometimes duplicate but never new info (Lisle)
- Goes against evolution statement that we evolved into more complex systems
 - more complex systems need more information

PICTURE AND QUOTE

- Micro vs Macro Evolution
 - No observed witness of macro evolution
 - there is micro, but these are always taking things away
- No law of nature or process that causes information to originate alone in matter (Lisle)

SLIDE WITH QUOTE

SLIDES SHOWING VARIATION WITHIN DOG KIND

Intelligent Design

- Darwin's Black box** (Michael Behe)
- Complexity of biochemistry

- Everything else falls away if the molecular levels of people cannot evolve
- How could biochemical systems be gradually produced? Question of evolution
- If a system did not evolve, it would have had to appear as a whole at once
- Which evolved first, heart, kidneys or lungs? (Lisle)
 - Need all three
- IRREDUCIBLY COMPLEX
 - system made up of several interacting parts that are crucial to it's function
 - How to determine if something is Irreducibly Complex
 1. Specify function of system and all system components
 2. Ask if all components are required for function
 3. Is it a PHYSICAL or CONCEPTUAL precursor?
 - PHYSICAL: pre-existing material (Darwinism needs this)
 - CONCEPTUAL: pre-existing ideas
 - if one part fails or doesn't exist, the whole creature breaks down and dies
 - Minimal function: ability to accomplish a task in physically realistic circumstances
 - must be present for a system to be a candidate for Nat Sel
- Evolution must be step by step progression, yet some systems require completeness in order to work, otherwise it would never evolve to the completed stage
- Behe gives examples of how cells swim, blood clotting, and the immune system detecting bacteria

ID is a good starting point, but must go further as it does not answer questions regarding worldviews

ID has religious implications, but does not seek to answer or provide these implications.

- tries to only state scientific evidence for intelligence, but does not try to determine who or what this intelligence is

FINAL THOUGHTS

How do we see our world?

How does Naturalism explain morals and purpose for life?

Does Naturalism offer a logical, consistent worldview?

Which worldview does the evidence best fit?

What are the implications for you if there is a Creator?

BILL NYE VS KEN HAM CREATION DEBATE FEBUARY 4TH

Michael Behe, William Dembski, Stephen Meyer, ID Movement

List of Resources:

Darwin's Black Box

Creation Answers Book
Creation.com
Reasonable Faith
Design Revolution