

If Evolution is true, then Jesus' death
was worthless, unnecessary and did
not remove the penalty of sin

Why Does This Matter?

- Theologically
- Hermeneutically/Socially
- Spiritually

BUT FIRST: DEFINITIONS

- Terms to define: Creationism and Evolution
- Creationism: The belief that God created the earth in 6 literal, 24 hour days and all species of animals originated from kinds that God created and commanded to reproduce. Additionally, it is the belief that the earth is 6 to 10 thousand years old

DEFINITIONS

- 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). Additionally, it believes the earth is roughly 4 to 14 billion years old (depending on source)

EVOLUTION

- -Needs 3 things:
 1. Time
 2. Mutations
 3. Natural Selection

Why Does This Matter?

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THEOLOGICALLY

- Death before fall?
 - “Good” creation?
- Implications about God
- The Cross?

Death and Sin

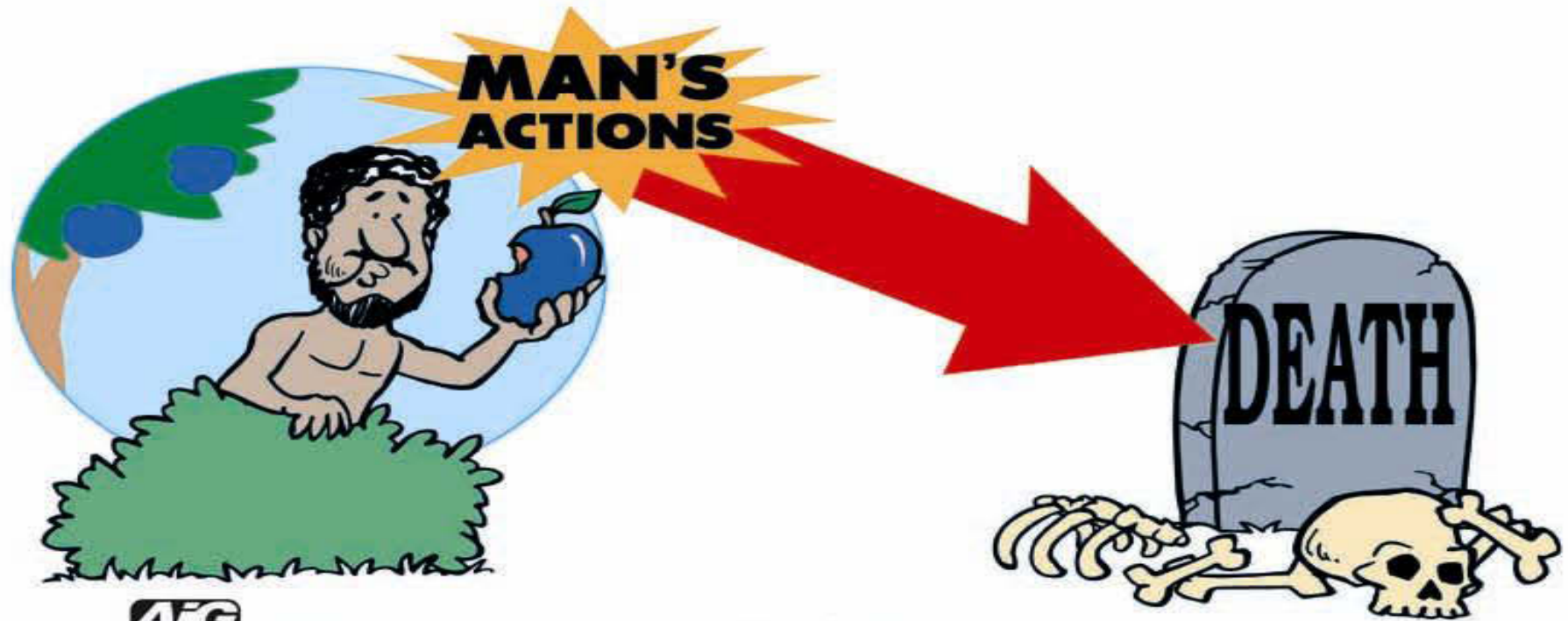
- Wages of sin is death (Romans 6:23)
- What is death?
 - Regular/irregular
 - Natural/unnatural
 - How did it enter? (Romans 5:12-14)

Death and Sin

- What kind of creation that is filled with death and suffering called “good”?
 - 5 times in Genesis 1



CREATION



AFG
CREATIONS

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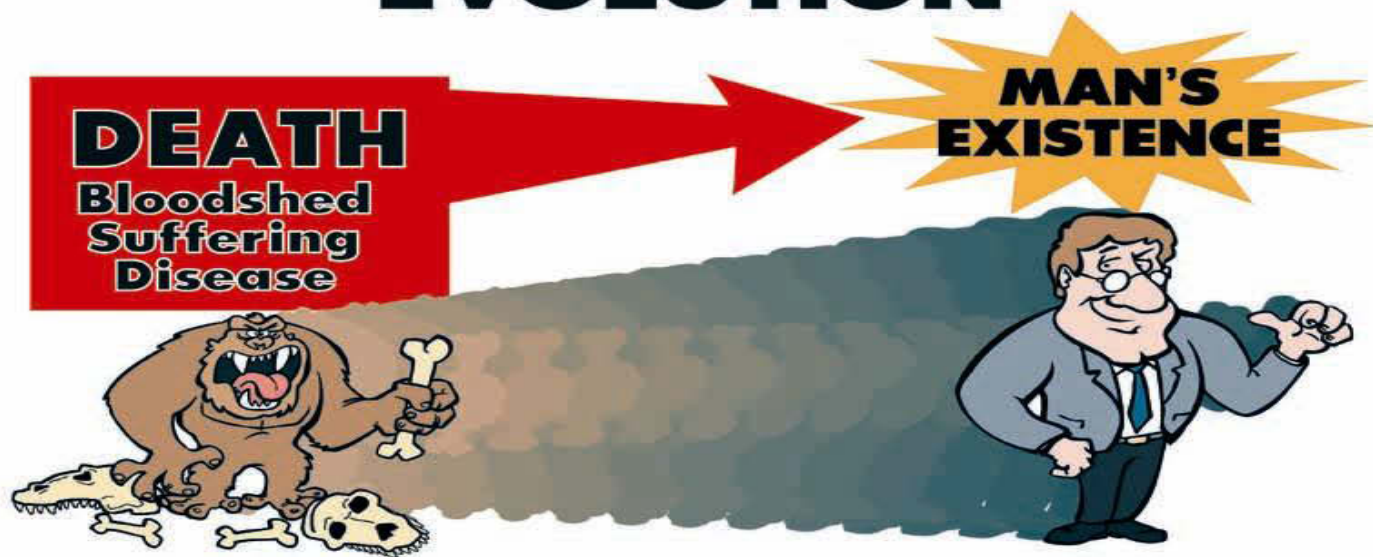
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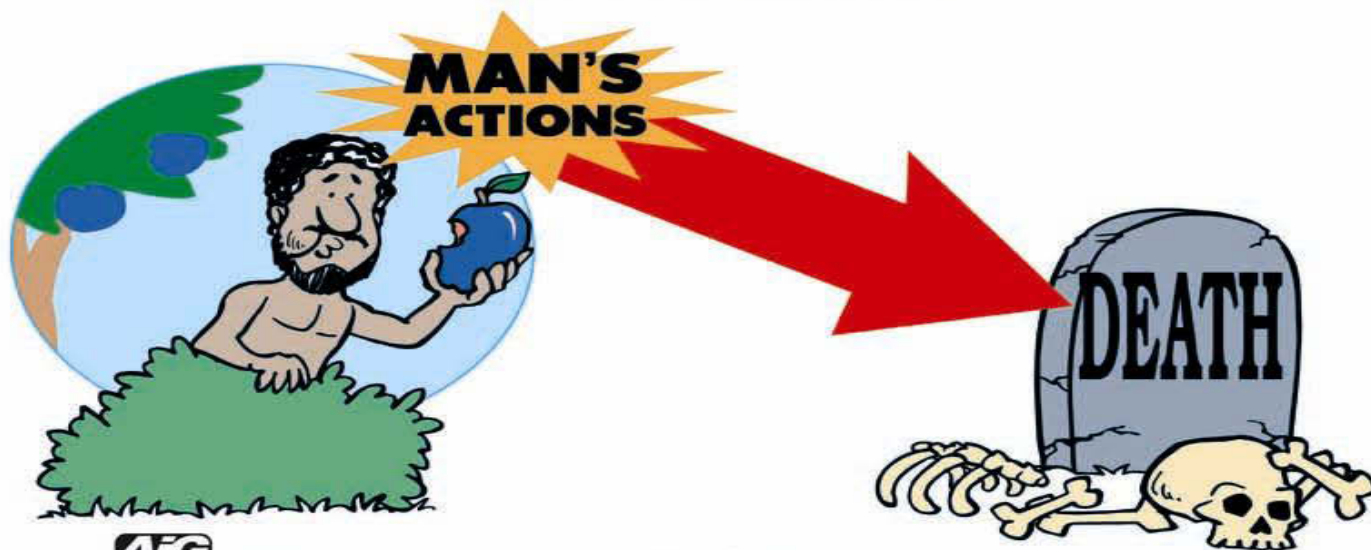
C“The secrets of evolution are time and death. Time for the slow accumulations of favorable mutations, and death to make room for new species.”

Sagan, Carl, "Cosmos", program entitled "One Voice in the Cosmic Fugue."

EVOLUTION



CREATION



EVOLUTION

DEATH

**Bloodshed
Suffering
Disease**

**MAN'S
EXISTENCE**



Two Histories of **Death**

Beginning

Future

God's Word

NO DEATH

Man's sin brought Death

Death is an enemy

DEATH will be done away with

ONLY THOUSANDS OF YEARS

NO DEATH

Death is a temporary part of history

Man's Opinion

MILLIONS AND MILLIONS OF YEARS

Life and death have always been together

Death is a permanent part of history

As long as there is life, there will be death.

Beginning

Future

Implications about God

- Ultimate standard of “perfect”
- Called the earth good, and only Himself to “compare” it to
- If perfection declares something as “good”, then how can it be anything less than “good”?
 - Death would have to be part of perfection
 - Goes against common thought

Implications about God

- A perfect God use a sloppy, inefficient, and time consuming process to bring about His will?
- A craftsman doesn't use old, rusty and broken tools to create his masterpiece

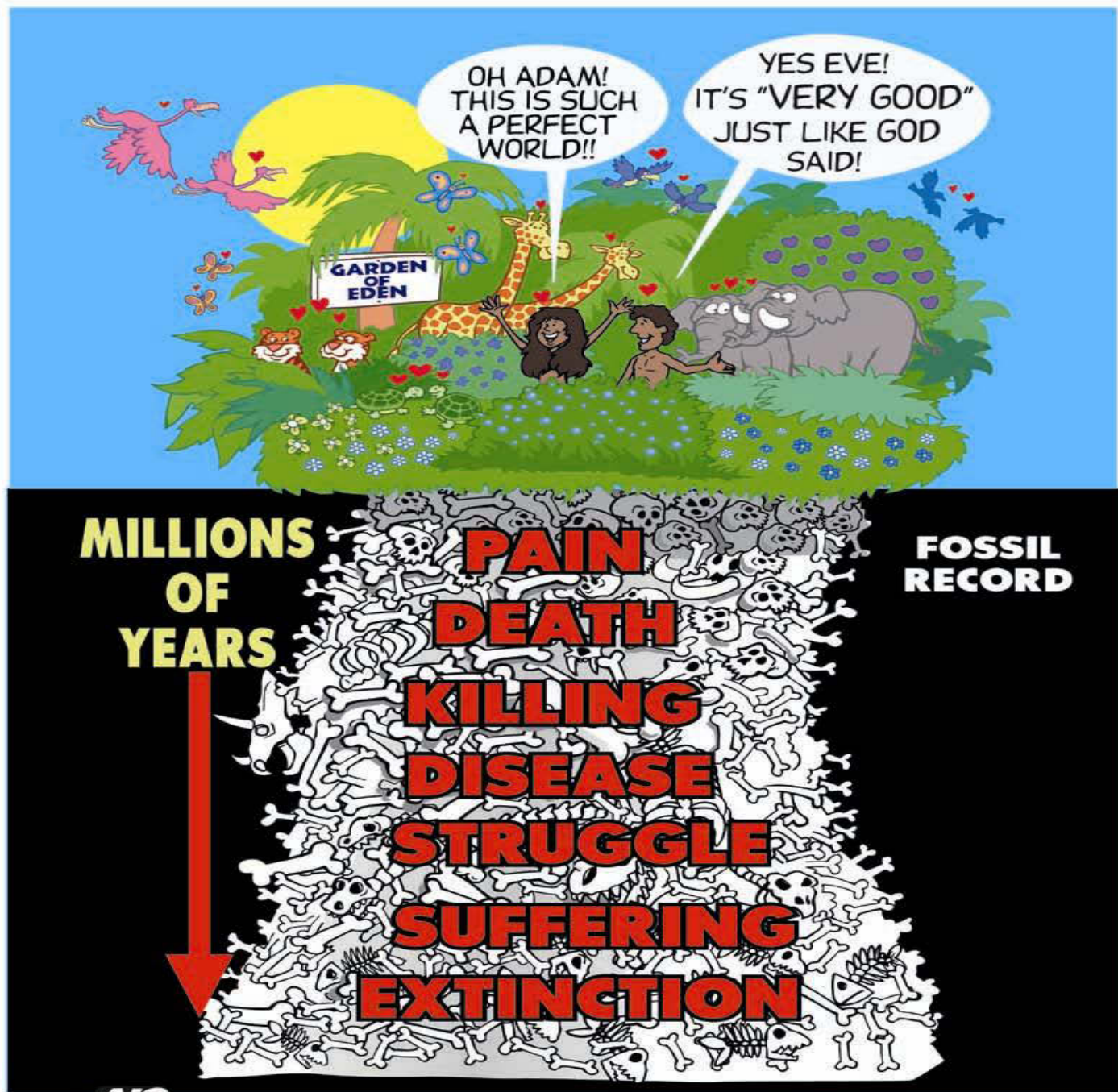
**MILLIONS
OF
YEARS**



=

FOSSIL HISTORY RECORD





Implications about God

- Death limits life
- God cannot be limited
- We are made from His image
 - How can we who are in the image of an everlasting God be created as mortal and limited?

The Cross?

- Why did Jesus die for us?
 - Sin separates us from God (Romans 3:23)
 - It is irregular and abnormal
- If sin existed before the Fall, it would have been normal
 - What would have been the consequence of sin if death already existed?

The Cross?

- If sin doesn't lead to death, then why did we need saving?
- What reason would Jesus have to die for us?
- Just spiritual death?
 - If only came to save us from spiritual death, how did spiritual death arise?
 - Genesis 2:17 and 3:19, Romans 5:12-14

Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men, because all sinned.

Romans 5:12

It becomes clear now that the whole justification of Jesus' life and death is predicated on the existence of Adam and the forbidden fruit he and Eve ate. Without the original sin, who needs to be redeemed? Without Adam's fall into a life of constant sin terminated by death, what purpose is there to Christianity? None.

Richard Bozarth, "The meaning of evolution," *American Atheist*, September 20, 1979, page 30.

Q071

HERMINUTICALLY/SOCIALLY

- Interpretation of the Bible
 - When does allegorizing stop? Why at chapter 11?
 - If Adam is figurative, what about Paul's comparison with Moses in Romans 5 and 1 Cor 15:21-22?
 - Moses also figurative?
 - Even more, Adam is a type of Christ
 - Christ becomes figurative? (Rom 5:16-21)

If Adam may be held to be no more real a personage than Prometheus, and if the story of the Fall is merely an instructive “type,” comparable to the profound Promethean mythus, what value has Paul’s dialectic?

Thomas Huxley, *Science and Hebrew Tradition Essays*, 1897, page 236.

Q158

**Jesus
Christ
"The Last
Adam"**
1 Cor. 15:45



**For as in Adam all die,
even so in Christ shall all be made alive**
1 Cor. 15:22



**"The
First
Adam"**
1 Cor. 15:45

**Which Adam is "non-essential"
to the Gospel?**

HERMINUTICALLY/SOCIALLY

- Tolerance
 - Stop taking the Bible as literal?
 - Miracles of Jesus not true because of science?
 - Can't use the "God in the gaps" argument
 - "Well, He's God, He can do it!" Also applies to creation
 - Christ's resurrection? ← Essential to our faith!
 - 1 Corinthians 15:12-22

SPIRITUALLY

- Necessary to believe literal, six day creation for salvation?
- ...NOPE
 - But there is conflict between the philosophical assumptions of evolution and the reason Christ died

SO NOW WHAT?

Trust in the Accuracy of Bible

- People who believed in Creation
 - God and Moses (Ex 20:8-11)
 - Jesus (Mark 10:5-9)
 - Paul (Romans 5)
 - David (Psalm 136)

Trust in the Accuracy of Bible

- Bible is scientifically accurate
 - Does not teach science
 - But is true in all it teaches about science

Understand Implications

- Evolution uproots the meaning of the Cross
- Brings false beliefs about God and what He makes
 - What he deems as “good”

**Christianity is—must be—
totally committed to the
special creation as described
in Genesis, and Christianity
must fight with its full might,
fair or foul against the theory
of evolution.**

Richard Bozarth, "The meaning of evolution," *American Atheist*,
September 20, 1979, page 19.

Q069

Questions for Groups

- What do you agree with? And why?
- Disagree with?
- What does this mean for you personally?