

The St. Peter Option: To Everyone an Answer
Living as Exiles in a Foreign Land
1 Peter, 2 Peter, Christian Vocation, and the Table of Duties

8 Evolution VS. Adam and Christ

Introduction:

Evolution must be rejected because it is a denial of a personal God in whose image we were created and redeemed, and of the salvation of humanity in the incarnation and resurrection of the Son of God (the Second Adam).

“Christ also suffered once for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive by the Spirit.” 1 Peter 3:18

“We did not follow cunningly devised fables when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of His majesty.” 2 Peter 1:16

“But there were also false prophets among the people, even as there will be false teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies, even denying the Lord who bought them, and bring on themselves swift destruction. And many will follow their destructive ways, because of whom the way of truth will be blasphemed.” 2 Peter 2:1-2

“Let those who suffer according to the will of God commit their souls to Him in doing good, as to a faithful Creator.” 1 Peter 4:19

What is Evolution?

Websters Universal Dictionary: “In biology...the theory that all existing organisms have arisen as morphological and physiological modifications of preexisting forms, that they are all genetically related, and that the change resulting in present differences has been gradual from the simple and less differentiated to the complex and more highly differentiated. An important theory in connection with evolution is that characteristics inherited and those acquired through environment, function, etc., are transmitted to the offspring.” “In metaphysics...The evolution theory of the origin of species is that later species have been developed by continuous differentiation of organs and modifications of parts from simpler and less differentiated, and that thus all organic existences, even man himself, may be traced back to a simple cell.” Webster’s Universal Dictionary of the English Language, 1937.

The Concise Columbia Encyclopedia: “Organic evolution conceives of life as having begun as a simple, primordial protoplasmic mass from which arose, through time, all subsequent living forms. The first clearly stated theory of evolution, that proposed by Jean Lamarck in 1801, included the inheritance of acquired characteristics as the operative force in evolution. Subsequently (1858), Alfred Russel Wallace and Charles Darwin independently set forth a scientifically credible theory of evolution based on natural selection, focusing on the survival and reproduction of those species best adapted to the environment.” The Concise Columbia Encyclopedia, Columbia University, 1983.

Concise Contemporary Definition: That life arose from lifelessness spontaneously through a process of random, accidental chemical processes over millions of years. Complex forms of life arose from earlier simpler forms of life through a process of natural selection influenced by the environment and the organisms innate “desire” to continue to live. Life forms are continually “improving” and “advancing” from the simple to the complex. Organisms that cannot adapt die; those which can adapt live and continue to thrive and progress.

What are the consequences of evolutionary theory?

1. The denial of a personal God who is Creator and upon whom the creation depends.
2. The replacing of the Holy Trinity with the pagan gods of “preexistent matter” and “primordial protoplasmic mass”.
3. Evolutionary “progressive” morality.
4. The denial of the uniqueness of the human person.
5. The denial of the creation of man in the image and likeness of the Triune God of love.
6. The denial of the historicity of Adam as one from whom all humanity descended.
7. The denial of sin and its resulting death as “alien” to and an intrusion into God’s creation.
8. A rejection of the dominion over the creation that God gave to Adam.
9. A denial of the incarnation of the Son of God as the Second Adam and Redeemer of fallen humanity.
10. A denial of the atonement of Christ and its resulting resurrection of the body.

What is the Biblical origin of humanity?

- The creation of man in the image and likeness of the Triune God of love—Genesis 1:26-28
- Adam as the first man from whom all humanity descended—Genesis 2:7-8, 21-24

What is the relationship between Biblical creation and soteriology?

- Jesus affirms the creation of man and the institution of marriage—Mark 10:2-9/Mt. 19:3-6
- The prologue of John’s Gospel teaches creation of man by the eternal Logos (the Word), who is the Son of the Father, and who, in the incarnation subsumed all humanity to Himself for our salvation—John 1:1-18
- The Creation of Adam and His Fall is Linked to the Incarnation of the Son and His Atonement which is the source of salvation and the resurrection of the body—Romans 5:12-21
- The historicity of Adam and Christ—1 Corinthians 15:1-58:
 - Speaks of the historicity of the death and resurrection of the Christ, according to the Scriptures.
 - Speaks of the historicity of Adam and Christ, linked together in the incarnation, atonement, and resurrection.
 - Speaks of the certain hope of the resurrection of the body to immortality and incorruption at the Second Coming of Christ.

Conclusion:

Evolution leads to an understanding of life that is devoid of transcendent meaning, purpose, and most of all love. We are reduced to purposeless organisms adrift in a cosmic sea where we are here for a moment and gone forever. The Christian world view and the narrative of being created in the image of the Triune God of love as descendants of Adam and redeemed by the incarnation, death, and resurrection of the Second Adam gives real meaning to our lives. It ushers us into an understanding of the world and our own existence that sees us having been created by God to be in an eternal communion of love with Him who created us and redeemed us by the blood of His Son.

Psalm for Meditation: Psalm 139 (vss. 13-16)