

DOUBTING DARWIN

1 Tim 6:20 – “O Timothy, keep that which is committed to your trust, avoiding worldly and godless chatter, and opposing views from what is falsely called science ...”

I. Darwin's Doubts:

- “Long before having arrived at this part of my work, a crowd of difficulties will have occurred to the reader. Some of them are so grave that to this day I can never reflect on them without being staggered ...” (*Charles Darwin, Origin of the Species*, p. 171.)
- “Often a cold shudder has run through me, and I have asked myself whether I may have not devoted myself to a phantasy ...” (*Charles Darwin, My Life and Letters*. Vol. 2, © 1887, p. 29.)
- “I am quite conscious that my speculations run beyond the bounds of true science ... It is a mere rag of an hypothesis with as many flaws and holes as sound parts.” (*University of Cambridge, Darwin Correspondence Project. Imperial College of Science, Technology and Medicine - Huxley 5:65*)
- Collin Patterson – Senior Paleontologist British Museum of Natural History – “So for the last few weeks I’ve tried putting a simple question to various people and groups of people. “Can you tell me anything you *know* about evolution, any one thing, any one thing that is absolutely true? I tried that question on the geology staff at the Field Museum of Natural History and the only answer I got was silence. I tried it on the members of the Evolutionary Morphology Seminar in the University of Chicago, a very prestigious body of evolutionists, and all I got there was silence for a long time ... and eventually one person said, ‘Yes, I do know one thing – it ought not to be taught in high school.’” (*1981 Lecture: American Museum of Natural History*)

Newsweek – “Evidence from fossils now points overwhelmingly away from the classical Darwinism which most Americans learned in high school.” (*Newsweek*, Nov. 3, 1980.)

Moments of Honesty:

- Aldous Huxley – “I had motives for not wanting the world to have meaning; consequently, assumed that it had none, and was able without any difficulty to find satisfying reasons for this assumption. For myself, as no doubt, for most of my contemporaries, the philosophy of meaninglessness was essentially an instrument of liberation. The liberation we desired was liberation from a certain system of morality. We objected to the morality because it interfered with our sexual freedom.” (*Ends & Means*, © 1937, p. 270, 273.)
- Romans 1:19 – “It is not that they do not know the truth about God; for indeed He has made it plain to them. For since the beginning of the world the invisible attributes of God, even his eternal power and divinity, have been plainly discernible through the things which he has made and which are commonly seen and known, thus leaving these men without a rag of excuse. They knew all the time that there is a God, yet they refused to acknowledge him as such, or to thank him for what he is or does. They became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish hearts were darkened. While they were claiming to be wise, they became utter fools ... And even as they refused to have God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind ...”
- They’re not saying, “We’ve looked, and we just don’t see any evidence for a Creator.” It’s more like, “We don’t like where the evidence is leading us.”
- Richard Dawkins – “Biology is the study of complicated things that give the appearance of having been designed for a purpose.” (*The Blind Watchmaker*, © 1996, p. 1.)

- Francis Crick (Co-Discoverer of the Structure of DNA) – “Biologists must constantly keep in mind that what they see was not designed, but rather evolved.” (*What Mad Pursuit*, © 1990, p. 138.)

Problem #1 – Lack of Transitional Species:

- Darwin – “As by this theory, innumerable transitional forms must have existed, why do we not find them embedded in the crust of the earth? Why is all nature not in confusion, instead of being as we see them, well-defined species? Geological research does not yield the infinitely many fine graduations between. past and present species required by the theory; and this is the most obvious of the many objections which may be argued against it. The explanation lies, however, in the extreme imperfection of the geologic record ... Only a small portion of the surface of the earth has been geologically explored.” (*Origin of the Species* – p. 171, 280, 287)
- David B. Kitts – Paleontologist, University of Oklahoma – “Evolution requires intermediate forms between species and paleontology (the fossil record) does not provide them ...” (*Evolution*, Vol. 28, No. 3, © Sept 1974, p. 467.)
- N. Heribert Nilsson – Swedish Geneticist, Evolutionist, Lund University – “The fossil material is now so complete (100 million fossils, covering 250,000 species), that the lack of transitional series cannot be explained as being due to scarcity of material.. The deficiencies are real; they will never be filled.” (*Synthetische Artbildung*, © 1953, p. 1212.)
- Collin Patterson (Senior Paleontologist, British Museum of Natural History) – “If I knew of any evolutionary transitions, fossil or living, I would certainly have included them in my book. I will lay it on the line – there is not one such fossil for which one could make a watertight argument.” (*Letter to Luther Sunderland*, April 10th, 1979)

Problem #2 – Complexity:

- Darwin – “To suppose that the eye, with all its inimitable contrivances for adjusting the focus to different distances, for admitting different amounts of light, and for the correction of spherical and chromatic aberration, could have been formed by natural selection, seems, I freely confess, absurd in the highest possible degree.” (*Origin of the Species* – p. 186)
- Ray Comfort (Evangelist) – “The human eye is an amazing interrelated system of about forty individual subsystems, including the retina, pupil, iris, cornea, lens and optic nerve ... The eye, optic nerve, and visual cortex are totally separate and distinct subsystems. Yet, together, they capture, deliver and interpret up to 1.5 million pulse messages per milli-second.” (*Origin of the Species* – 150th Anniversary Edition, p. 33-34)
- Nova Online – “The amount of information in every. human cell is equivalent to that in 1,000 books of encyclopedia size. It would take a person typing 60 words per minute, eight hours a day, for 50 years to type the human genome. And if all the DNA in your body’s 100 trillion cells was put end to end, it would reach to the sun and back over 600 times.”
- Francis Collins (Scientist That Cracked the Human Genome) – “When you have for the first time in front of you this 3.1-billion-letter instruction book that conveys all kinds of information and all kinds of mystery about humankind, you can’t survey that, going through page after page, without a sense of awe. I can’t help but look at those pages and have a vague sense that this is giving me a glimpse of God’s mind.” (*The Sunday Times*, June 11, 2006, “I’ve Found God”)
- Darwin - “When we descend to details, we cannot prove that a single species has changed; nor can we prove that the supposed changes are beneficial, which is the groundwork of the theory. Nor can we explain why some species have changed and others have not.” (*Life & Letters*, Vol. 02, p. 247)