

Lord Increase Our Faith
by Hendrik Joubert

Do you find your faith in God challenged by all the "scientific evidence" presented against creation by intelligent design? Are you afraid of admitting to those who promote the faith of evolution that you do not believe that your great-great grandparents were baboons, or something like baboons? Has anyone ever challenged you to prove the existence of God, and you were embarrassed by your inability to take up the challenge?

The intent with this article is to suggest a few simple ways in which we may defend our faith in God and His amazing power, but also to show that the theory of evolution requires faith. Evolution is promoted as purely scientific; however it is an explanation of how things started which requires leaps of faith where scientific evidence is lacking. The idea of it being purely scientific is used to make those who oppose it feel backwards, inferior and illogical.

Notice the scientific confidence in the following information retrieved from the internet: 1. Evolution on Double Time This excerpt from Evolution: The Triumph of an Idea by Carl Zimmer describes how gene duplication may have been the key to the rapid evolution of the early stages of life on Earth. (<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/evolution/library/03/index.html> retrieved February 20, 2006 19h06) Have you noticed the "may have been?" Their reply may be that they are still doing the research to confirm the fact. That is just it; so much is accepted without being proven. 2. Origin and Evolution of Life on Earth Present thoughts, theories and speculation of how life emerged on Earth and evolved into what it is today. (www.geocities.com/CapeCanaveral/Lab/2948/originoflife.html). If it had been confirmed by science, how does it change to present thoughts, theories and speculation? Have you noticed again the scientific confidence, or lack thereof? Well, it was only the beginning of the idea of evolution...

Consider the idea of the missing link. When I look at a tadpole, with the naked eye it looks somewhat like a little fish. I am able to trace its development through each stage, the little legs become noticeable and it loses the tail to become a mature frog. Each stage of development is sufficiently represented as the process continues, millions of examples are available. Are we to believe that everything developed the same way, but only we cannot see all the stages? One of the solutions offered here is that there is a jump from one stage to another. There you have your leap of faith in the absence of scientific evidence. Notice also that the search for the missing link continues – it is just that there are so few specimens of the link in spite of the many apes and the many people the apes developed into. Other possible solutions help divert attention while the search continues.

Some scientists – not all scientists believe in evolution – find it simply impossible to believe in creation by a miracle. How could we expect them to believe in the amazing power of God without any evidence? Before we discuss the evidence provided by God, I would like for us to consider the idea of the miraculous for a minute. Where did everything start out evolutionary speaking? The Big Bang and then there was the amoeba, the first living cell, and then... From here life supposedly developed into the diverse forms we have today, everything essentially coming from the same source. Now consider this, inherent in these things is the power to develop into life, which eventually evolved into the human with all the complex systems of sight, smell, hearing, etc. Are we to suppose – because it took place over millions of years – that these things did not have miraculous powers within themselves which scientist simply will not grant God? That is it, they will grant these organisms inherent powers to miraculously become something more advanced – spontaneously – but they will not grant God this power. Because they cannot figure out or explain where He came from?

What do we have to offer? What is today's date? What does the 2006 represent? A little over 2006 years ago Jesus of Nazareth was born, and He had such impact on the world that we measure time by Him – time before Him (BC) and time after Him (AD). He was killed on a cross and was buried in a secure tomb, guarded by His enemies. On the third day that tomb was empty, as He predicted would be the case, and as other prophets announced many years before with specific detail. Notice the testimony from one who used to vehemently oppose Jesus of Nazareth: Paul, a bond-servant of Christ Jesus, called as an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, ² which He promised beforehand through His prophets in the holy Scriptures, ³ concerning His Son, who was born of a descendant of David according to the flesh, ⁴ who was declared the Son of God with power by the resurrection from the dead, according to the Spirit of holiness, Jesus Christ our Lord,... Romans 1:1-4

Like all the other witnesses, Paul was willing to die for what he believed because of the evidences he witnessed. Will we believe Jesus and His witnesses, or will we believe those who tell us God did not have this power, but the creatures themselves had the inherent power to become the amazingly complex human being?

Proving Jesus as the Christ the Son of God, is to prove God. Examine at your own leisure the evidence against Jesus and His resurrection from the dead. His body was removed while the witnesses to this evidence were sleeping. How does one testify to what happened while you slept? They went to the wrong tomb? Why did his enemies not point out the right tomb and display the body publicly? Those who crucified Him and arranged for the security at His tomb would have loved to have the body for public display. Why could they not find it?

Salvation is by faith. God is not dubious about that. Each individual has to act as a judge as one considers the evidence presented by scientists, and the evidence presented through the Bible.