



## Why don't we believe in evolution?

One of the assignments the confirmation students have is to write down all their questions about things we believe or things we do as Christians. This question came from one of those assignments. It's a great question, because the theory of evolution tends to get accepted as a fact just because it's taught in schools. I'd say that "evolution" is a classic example of the idea that "You tend to believe what you hear most often - even if it can be proven false."

The answer to that question can be found in lots of places: God's Word (the Bible), logic, our experience, and even science itself.

Starting with God's Word, God plainly tells us that He created the world and everything in it in just six days, not billions of years. (The Hebrew words and phrases of the creation account indicate that those were 24-hour days. But even if you take Peter's statement in 2 Peter 3:8 literally, "With the Lord a day is like a thousand years..." Then you would still have God creating the world in just six thousand years, not billions.)

I've even heard some Christians claim that God created everything, but He did it through the process of evolution. My answer to that is, "God could have created everything that way, but He tells us in His Word that's definitely NOT how He did it. The basic idea behind evolutionary theory is that everything happens by chance. There's no rhyme or reason or master plan. But when you read how God describes creation in Genesis chapter one, the thing that strikes you is that the creation of the world and everything in it was very orderly, organized and according to a plan. There's absolutely no hint of "Hmmm. Let's try this and see if it works!"

Our own human reason (logic) tells us that nothing gets created purely by chance. For example, when you see a building, you know instinctively that the boards, cement, nails, screws, siding, shingles and everything else didn't just "come together" one day by chance. No, when you see a building, your logic correctly tells you there had to be a builder. Someone who planned it and built it. When you see a painting, you inherently know that the paint didn't just "come together" purely by chance one day in the form of the image on the canvas. When you see a painting, your logic correctly tells you there had to be a painter. In the same way, when you see creation, your logic correctly tells you there had to be a Creator.

Our own experience with how fast things decay and erode tells us that there is no way this earth could have lasted for billions of years. We do witness something called "microevolution," the idea that over time things change within a given species. For example, human beings are observably taller than they were a couple hundred years ago. But there is zero evidence for what is called "macroevolution," the idea at the foundation of evolutionary theory that over time one species can change and become a totally different species (e.g. fish became birds and apes became human).

Finally, there are a couple (at least) basic laws of science that are opposed to the theory of evolution. One is called the Law of Biogenesis. It states that living things cannot come from non-living things. But the theory of evolution would have us believe that one day lightning struck some non-living chemicals and living organisms were the result. Science says that can't happen. Another law of science is the Second Law of Thermodynamics which states that things left to themselves will break down over time. The theory of evolution is based on the opposite idea that things left to themselves will become more complex over time. Again, science says that can't happen.

The bottom line: You don't have to apologize for believing that God created the world and everything in it! God's Word, logic, experience and even science are on your side!

Thanks for asking,  
Pastor David

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