

Inspired Science & Religion

The Battle Against Evolution in the
Restored Church

Volume 2: Religion



R. Nathan Richardson

Copyright R. Nathan Richardson.

Sharing is allowed for educational purposes.

Contact rrnmailbox@gmail.com for a discounted bulk paperback order.

Visit RichardsonStudies.com for additional resources on this subject.



Nate Richardson is a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

Bible verses referenced in this volume are from the KJV.

Acknowledgments

Special thanks to Jeremy Michel for prodding me to take on this project. Special thanks to Brenda High, Glen Nichols, Utahna Richardson, & Shannon Salisbury for help with editing.

Special thanks on science research to Vince Newmeyer, Dean Sessions, Russ Barlow, Lance Weaver, Owen Ira Terry, Jeremy Michel, David Barker, Vance Ferrel, Henry Morris, Stephen Meyer, Michael Behe, Phillip Johnson, & Kent Hovind.

Special thanks on religion/church history research to Joseph Fielding Smith, Ezra Taft Benson, James Stoddard, Daniel Burdett, Clark Peterson, Rodney Turner, and Dennis Isaacson.

Special thanks to my kids for some fun meme ideas, their prayers for this work, and their encouraging smiles. Most of all, special thanks to my wife Megan for enabling me to spend time on this intensive project, and her intelligent editing suggestions.



Volume 1: Science

Part 1

BYU Advocating Evolution, An Awful Situation

Part 2

Refuting Evolutionary Science Claims:
Scientific Evidence that God Didn't Use Evolution

Appendix:

Highlighting Creation Science Writers
More Scientific Evidence that God Didn't Use Evolution

Volume 2: Religion

Part 1

The Church Still Against Evolution:
Ecclesiastical Evidence that God Didn't Use Evolution

Part 2

Evolution's Influence on Testimony:
Spiritual Evidence that God Didn't Use Evolution

Appendix:

Doctrines of The Creation:
Theological Evidence that God Didn't Use Evolution



Contents

Recap of Volume 1 on Science	9
Part 1: The Church Still Against Evolution	11
Talmage, Widstoe, Eyring, & The Consistent Message of the Church	12
What about Joseph Fielding Smith’s 1954 Book “Man: His Origin & Destiny?”	26
President Nelson Repeatedly Denounces Evolution	35
Debunking the Claim that First Presidency Statements Don’t “Confirm Or Deny” Evolution	43
Anonymous 1910 Statement Erroneously Hailed as Coming from the First Presidency	50
3 BYU Professors Fired for Teaching Evolution & Liberal Doctrines	59
Issues with the ‘No Official Church Position on Evolution’ Claim	66
8 Issues with the “Church History: Organic Evolution” Web Page	76
Issues with The BYU Evolution Packet, & Dogma	87
Issues with The 1931 Evolution Statement on ‘Leaving it All to Scientists’	93

Will You Believe Plain Truth, Be Compelled, or Even Mock Believers on The Evolution Question?	96
---	----

Part 2: Evolution’s Corrupting Influence On Testimony	116
--	-----

Abraham Implies Evolution?	117
----------------------------------	-----

Scripture Got Creation Order Wrong?	119
---	-----

Origin of Morals: Children of Natural Selection?	127
---	-----

Nature is Strong Evidence for God, Don’t Separate Temporal/Spiritual.....	133
--	-----

Evolutionary Pseudoscience is Dangerous Indeed	142
---	-----

If Nature Doesn’t <i>Need</i> God (As Evolution Claims), He Probably Doesn’t Exist	151
---	-----

Testimony of God’s Plan & The Restoration....	154
---	-----

What are the Spiritual Truths We Can Learn? ..	158
--	-----

Which Teachings Lead Children Away from Christ?	168
--	-----

Questioning Our Culture of Truth Seeking	182
--	-----

Beware Uninspired Scientists: Prophetic Denunciation of Darwin	183
---	-----

Silly Claims Concerning Korihor & Satan	192
---	-----

Cursed Educational Establishment Pushing Deceptive ‘Science’	195
---	-----

Faith Until Science?	199
Rejection of Creation Truth Foretold	201
Both Wrong: Mainstream Science & Mainstream Religion	205
Appendix: Doctrines Of The Creation	209
Adam: First Man	210
Adam: Literal Progeny of God (Not Hominid).218	
No Death Before The Fall; Fall Also Affected Animal & Plant Life	228
Reproduction Only After Their Kind	239
7000 Temporal Years of Earth	249
7 Days of Creation.....	251
1 Day of Creation is 1000 Years	255
Worldwide Flood of Noah.....	259
Ongoing Creation (On Big Bang & Cosmic Origins).....	265
Debunking The Theory of Old Earth Repeated Creations.....	269
Additional Resources	273

Recap of Volume 1 on Science



In volume 1 of this series, the following was treated:

Part 1 BYU Advocating Evolution

Professors of BYU advocating evolution acceptance.

Secular voices in the Church undermining the reality of events of the creation and the flood.

Secular voices in the Church call evolution their facts, and religion their beliefs, which must conform to their science theories.

Parents of BYU students whose children lost their faith from learning about evolution at BYU.

And more!

Part 2 Responding to Evolutionary Science

Claims

We will show cases of unfair play in the academic world favoring evolution and shutting down opposing views.

In this section we will expose evolutionary science claims on topics like:

Vestigial organs
Embryonic similarities
Homologous structures
A common ancestor
The missing link
Hominids
Radiometric dating
Old Earth
DNA
Geologic column
Fossils

And more!

Now on to volume 2, focusing on religion.

Part 1: The Church Still Against Evolution

Ecclesiastical Evidence that God Didn't Use Evolution

Color code of text in this book:

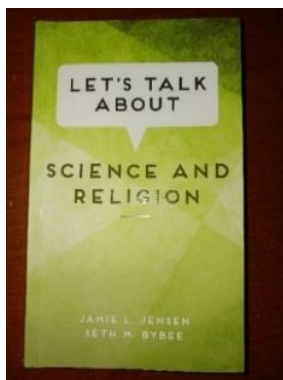
Red – Scriptures.

Blue – Latter-day Prophets

Green – Scientists.

Brown – Quotes from the BYU evolutionist book
“Let’s Talk about Science & Religion” (LTSR) by
Jamie Jensen & Seth Bybee.

In this series of responding to evolutionists within the church, we will frequently refer to the 2023 book, titled “Let’s Talk about Science and Religion,” which showcases their claims and is currently available for sale at Deseret Book.



The theme of Jamie L. Jensen and Seth M. Bybee's book, published at Deseret Book Co. in 2023, is that we need to accept the fact of evolution and adjust our religious beliefs accordingly. The back cover fold reveals that "[Jamie] is also a member of the Broader Social Impacts Committee for the Human Origins Initiative at the Smithsonian, joining other religious scientists to help the **American public feel more comfortable with evolution.**"

Talmage, Widstoe, Eyring, & The Consistent Message of the Church

On page 50 the LTSR authors speak of "the varying views of church leaders over time." The Church History Topics website page on Organic Evolution makes similar claims (<https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/study/history/topics/organic-evolution?lang=eng> which I address elsewhere in this book). What they mean is that the message of church leaders has been entirely consistent, but they refer to two notable Apostles Widstoe & Talmage (as well as Henry Eyring Sr. and BH Roberts, who were not Apostles), who had somewhat differing views on science. Many are surprised to learn that several of these men did not believe that Adam came from hominids, though each of them at some time in their lives expressed being unclear in whether there had been pre-Adamites and death before the Fall.

These men were not in complete unity with the doctrines found in the scriptures and the unified voice of the Presidents of the Church in this dispensation. As I understand, Talmage entertained the idea of modern geology's old Earth, and Eyring Sr. was on board with the common ancestor claims.

I will not include all of their teachings on the subject here, but I will include some of their statements that may be surprising to those who claim them to be fully on the side of the evolutionists.



James E. Talmage expressed his view

against organic evolution from a common ancestor when he said, **“I do not regard Adam as related to certainly not as descended from the Neanderthal, the Cro-Magnon, the Peking or the Piltdown man. Adam came as divinely created, created and empowered, and stands as the patriarchal head of his posterity, who, if true to the laws of God are heirs to the Priesthood and to the glories of eternal lives. Were it true that man is a product of evolution from lower forms, it is but reasonable to believe that he will yet develop into something higher. While it is a fact that eternal progression is a characteristic of man’s Divine birthright, as yet we have learned nothing to indicate that man shall develop physically into any other form than that in which he now appears.** The difficulty lies in the fact already stated, that man differs from the animal creation not only in degree but in kind; he is the only being who has

any conception of a preexistent state or an existence beyond the grave; the only being whose thoughts turn toward God and who feels in his soul the inspiring impulses of kinship to Deity. **Believe not those who would make man but little above the brutes, when in truth he is but little below the angels,** and if faithful shall pass by the angels and take his place among the exalted sons of God. The spirit of man is the offspring of the Eternal Father, and his body, if unmarred, is in the very form and fashion of that spirit.” (James E. Talmage, Conference Report, October 1916, pp. 7376)

James Talmage taught of man being the literal offspring of God. He said, “Man’s Relationship to God—’Mormonism’ claims an **actual and literal relationship of parent and child between the Creator and man—not in the figurative sense** in which the engine may be called the child of its builder; not the relationship of a thing mechanically made to the maker thereof; but the **connection between father and offspring.**” (James E. Talmage, Articles of Faith, p. 474)

James Talmage even taught that some in the restored church try to misconstrue scriptures to justify evolution. He said, “There are men in the world who have **set themselves up against the God of Israel**, men who have undertaken to measure arms with the Almighty, and to pit their wisdom against the eternal wisdom of God, men who **have undertaken to construe, or rather to misconstrue, the holy Scriptures, and to declare to the people that these writings do not mean what they say.** Beware of them, Latter-day

Saints. Stand we firm and steadfast by the revealed word of God and on the words of instruction that are given us from time to time by those whom we sustain before the Lord as his representatives in our midst; and should there come a question of issue between the opinions of men and the word of revelation, I say, as said the apostle, Paul, of old, in his written address to the Saints of Rome: “Yea, let God be true, but every man a liar.” Men have made themselves **liars before God because they have undertaken to question and even to deny his word.** ... When I see how often the theories and conceptions of men have gone astray, have fallen short of the truth, yea, have even **contradicted the truth directly,** I am thankful in my heart that we have an iron rod to which we can cling—the rod of certainty, the rod of revealed truth. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints **welcomes all truth, but it distinguishes most carefully between fact and theory,** between premises and deductions; and it is willing to leave some questions in abeyance until the Lord in his wisdom shall see fit to speak more plainly. As the result of the combined labors **of men I learn that man is but the developed offspring of the beast; and yet I read that God created man in his own image, after his likeness; and again, I stand on the word of God, though it be in contradiction to the theories of men. This spirit of misconstruction, this attempt to explain away the sure word of prophecy, the indisputable word of revelation, is manifest even among our own people.** There are those who would juggle with the predictions of the Lord’s prophets.” (James E. Talmage,

Conference Report, October 1916, pp. 7376)

John Widtsoe affirmed that evolution remains an unproven theory. He said, **“Science stands at present helpless before the mystery of the origin of life on earth. It offers guesses which have no precedence over theological inferences.** Through revelation we know that life existed before the earth was, and that “man was in the beginning with God.” **Life was placed upon earth by God,** through His power. That doctrine satisfies the inmost need of man. Such hypotheses or theories [about evolution] become dangerous when confused with the facts themselves. There are now many theories of evolution, all subject to the normal scrutiny to which all theories should be subjected; and until their probability is demonstrated, it is well to **remain wary of them... After these many years of searching, its truth has not been demonstrated. To many competent minds it is but a working hypothesis of temporary value. The theory fails utterly to explain the emotional, reasoning, and religious nature of man which distinguishes him so completely from the lower animals.**” (John A. Widtsoe, *Evidences and Reconciliation*, pp. 160-163)

John Widtsoe further commented on the oddity of evolutionists fighting unfairly to uphold their theory. He said, “Many a writer of books in this enlightened day is a poor philosopher, who has not learned to **distinguish between facts**, the only reliable units of knowledge, and inferences, the guesses, more or less probable, as to the meaning

of the facts. One writer builds a **philosophy for universal acceptance upon the theory of evolution**. If **opposition is voiced**, the **proponents of the theories rise up in mighty wrath**, forgetting that they are but **defending a human inference, not a fact of human observation**. So, even in this enlightened age men have not wholly freed themselves from the **heavy yoke of 'theories of men'**. Here, perhaps, lies the chief danger besetting this otherwise clear-thinking age. **Men become enamored of their own creations, their explanations of the universe**. Much of the discord among men may be traced directly to an unintelligent **allegiance to inferences**; few men quarrel about facts." (John A. Widtsoe, In Search of Truth: Comments on the Gospel and Modern Thought, p. 109)

Sadly today the scientific establishment makes it increasingly difficult to distinguish between fact and inference in matters of biology geology cosmology and so forth. As Mark Twain put it, *"It ain't what you don't know that gets you into trouble. It's what you know for sure that just ain't so."*

B.H. Roberts wrote about the inherent contradictions between Christianity and evolution. He said, **neither in living nature nor in the geological records can be found the intermediate transitional forms linking together by fine gradations the species, and the theory of evolution as advocated by many modern scientists lies stranded upon the shore of idle speculation**. There is one other objection to be urged against the theory of evolution before leaving it; **it is**

contrary to the revelations of God... But if the hypothesis of evolution be true, if man is only a product evolved from the lower forms of life—better still producing better until the highest type of intellectual manhood crowns with glory this long continued process—then it is evident that there has been no “fall,” such as the revelations of God speak of; and if there was no fall, there was no occasion for a Redeemer to make atonement for man, in order to reconcile him to God; then the mission of Jesus Christ was a myth, the coinage of idle brains, and Jesus himself was either mistaken, or one of the many impostors that have arisen to mock mankind with the hope of eternal life. Such is the inevitable result of accepting the philosophy of evolution, after which all the world is now running—it is destructive of the grand, central truth of all revelation; as well ancient as modern—as well the revelations given to Moses and the prophets, as those given to the apostles of the New Testament; as well those given in Asia; as those given in America; for the central truth of all revelation is the fall of man, and the redemption through the atonement of Jesus Christ. All things else contained in the revelations of God to man are subordinate and dependent for their strength and force upon this leading truth. I am aware that there is a class of **men who profess to be “Christian evolutionists,” and who maintain that Christianity can be made to harmonize with the philosophy of evolution.** But how are they made to harmonize? We are told that Jesus is still a Redeemer, but in this sense only: he gave out faultless moral precepts, and practiced them in his

life, and inasmuch as people accept his doctrines and follow his example they will be redeemed from evil. But as to the fall of man and the atonement made for him by the Son of God—both ideas are of necessity rejected; which means, of course, denying the great fundamental truths of revelation; **it is by destroying the basis on which the Christian religion rests, that the two theories are harmonized—if such a process can be called harmonization. It is on the same principle that the lion and the lamb harmonize, or lie down together—the lion eats the lamb.**” (B. H. Roberts, *The Gospel and Man’s Relationship to Deity*, pp. 265-267)

Robert’s also pointed to John Taylor’s work against evolution, saying, “The student of the great subject of the atonement will find in President [John] Taylor’s work [Mediation and Atonement] a most valuable collection of material for his consideration. In chapter XXIII he will also find a most valuable reference to the doctrine of **evolution as believed in by the Darwinian school of philosophers—a school of philosophy which professes to trace living phenomena to their origin, and which, if it were true, would at once destroy the doctrine of the Atonement.**” (B. H. Roberts, *Life of John Taylor*, pp. 367 – 368)

B.H. Roberts taught a similar teaching as Brigham Young, that the creation of Adam from the dust and Eve from the rib were a rare case of symbolic events, and that human creation followed the pattern of natural procreation. He said, “**In this**

nothing is hinted at about man being made from the dust, and woman manufactured from a rib, a story which has been a cause of much perplexity to religious people, and a source of much impious merriment to reckless unbelievers. And though it is said that the “Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground”—it by no means follows that he was “formed” as one might form a brick, or form the dust of this earth. We are all “formed” of the dust of the ground, though instead of being moulded as a brick we are brought forth by the natural laws of procreation. As before stated, the claims of evolution, as explained by philosophers of the Darwin school, are contrary to all experience so far as man’s knowledge extends. The great law of nature is that every plant, herb, fish, beast and man **produces its kind**; and though there may be slight variation from that law, those variations soon run out either by **reverting to the original stock, or else by becoming incapable of producing offspring**, and thus become extinct.” (B. H. Roberts, *The Gospel and Man’s Relationship to Deity*, pp. 279 282)

Now that we have reviewed some of these brethren's teachings let me say that any rare opinions in the wilderness favoring old earth or common ancestor hardly represent “**varying views of church leaders over time.**” Any belief in evolution theory and the old Earth that theory has required and conjured up, any of this ‘God used evolution’ business, is at variance with the scriptures and teachings of the presidents of the restored church for 200 years.

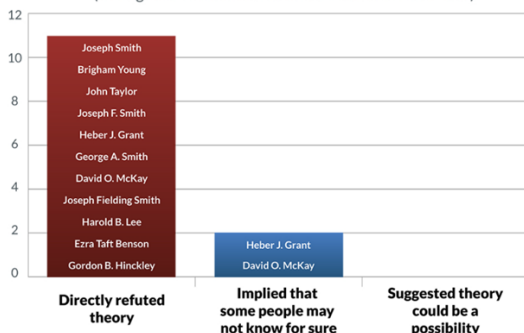
On page 51 the LTSR authors casually comment that some church leaders have expressed their opinions against evolution. Should we take these expressions casually? They claim that other church leaders have expressed opinions in favor of evolution, but this is not entirely accurate.

No Apostles have advocated evolutionary theory from the pulpit, whereas many Church Presidents and Apostles have repeatedly and confidently advocated against evolution from the pulpit, including at General Conferences. (More on this later.)

The restored Church has and continues to teach against evolution. It would be nice to see evolution advocates in the Church at least show the other side and give an idea of what the Church taught against evolution for hundreds of years. When they don't, it feels like **they are hiding something**.

Joseph Smith Foundation researchers compiled a list of which Church presidents supported evolution. Their conclusion was that none of them supported evolution. In fact, they all, except McKay and Grant, directly refuted the theory. The recent President Nelson isn't on their list, but he has clearly and repeatedly refuted evolution, as we will see in a moment.

Expressed Views of Presidents of the Church (on Organic Evolution as it relates to the Creation of Man)



JOSEPH SMITH FOUNDATION®

[\(https://josephsmithfoundation.org/faqs/science/08-conflicting-presidents-are-there-many-conflicting-opinions-with-diversity-of-viewpoint-among-the-previous-presidents-of-the-church-on-the-theory-of-organic-evolution-have-some-spoken-for-some-a/\)](https://josephsmithfoundation.org/faqs/science/08-conflicting-presidents-are-there-many-conflicting-opinions-with-diversity-of-viewpoint-among-the-previous-presidents-of-the-church-on-the-theory-of-organic-evolution-have-some-spoken-for-some-a/)

Many Church leaders have sternly rebuked evolutionary theory as a corrupt notion which directly opposes the teachings of Christ. Bruce R. McConkie gave us a refreshingly clear voice of reason on evolution vs doctrine. He said, “Obviously, the whole doctrine of the fall, and all that pertains to it, is diametrically opposed to the evolutionary assumptions relative to the origin of species.” (Bruce R. McConkie, *A New Witness for the Articles of Faith* [Salt Lake City: Deseret Book Co., 1985], xv) It’s interesting how the above

statement was published by Deseret Book in the past, a sharp contrast to what is published there now. Church teachings against evolution are frequent and easy to find, though there is a trend now to brush them under the rug.

On page 51, Let's Talk authors reference David O. McKay working with people who have different views on evolution. While it is true that he implied that some people may not know about organic evolution, he also taught about purpose in nature's design, and he questioned evolutionary claims. Consider his teachings:

“Youth need religion to comply properly with the purposes of creation. There is a **purposeful design** permeating all nature, the crowning event of which is man. Here, on this thought, **science again leads the student up to a certain point, and sometimes leaves him** with his soul unanchored. For example, evolution's theory of the creation of the world offers many perplexing problems to the inquiring mind. Inevitably, a teacher who denies divine agency in creation, who insists that there is no intelligent purpose in it, undoubtedly impresses the student with the thought that all may be chance.” (President David O. McKay, Conference Report, April 1968, General Priesthood Meeting 92)

“The second thing from which the world needs to

be saved is ignorance of its relationship to God. In their lack of knowledge of the existence of Deity, many men agnostically say, “I don’t know.”

Others bombastically say, “There is no God; life came to earth by chance and man was developed through evolutionary processes of ten or fifteen millions or billions, of years.” Paul, James, Cephas, John, and Joseph Smith, and a host of others knew, and so have testified, that we are sons and daughters of our Father in heaven. He is our God, and Jesus Christ came to the world to prove that great truth. From the very beginning He established our relationship with Deity; namely, that we are sons and daughters of God.” (David O. McKay, “The World Needs to Be Saved from Dominating Animal Instincts,” Instructor 97:181-82, June 1962)

What about Henry Eyring Sr.?

Eyring has a famous book “Reflections of a Scientist.” I’ll point out a few of my insights from that book.

Eyring’s point of view is that the miracles in the Bible could have really happened or not. He doesn’t care. He says they can be expressions or mistranslations for all he cares. He also gives the theory that there are higher laws being expressed. We are allowed more boldness in our belief in the events of the Bible! Let us not trivialize it to mere analogy!

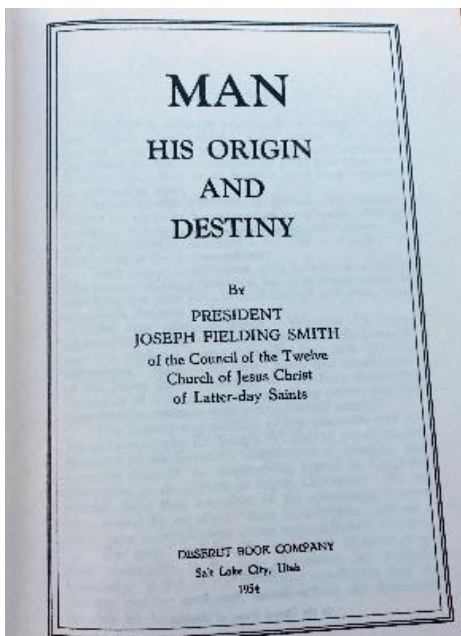
When one takes the view that “you don’t have to believe anything that is not true,” as Eyring was like to say in his book, though true, it’s very dangerous that you’ll get into hesitating obedience. How would such a person respond to something like, per se, the law of polygamy which God had the Saints practice in early church history? Would he regard that as a mere false opinion of the leaders of the church? That is an extreme example, but my point is that we must be able to follow the “”” council of our leaders even when we do not understand it. We pray for guidance, but we go forward with faith. The scripture says that this life is about walking by faith. He confesses that revelation is possible, that God can come and give instruction to man, but does he reject some of that instruction?

Eyring’s entire message assumes evolution as a fact, and he builds his religious views around that. There is much evidence coming out in contemporary scientific journals which opposes many of the traditional scientific views which Eyring states in his theory of science, such as the methods of carbon dating; many chinks in that armor are coming out and revealing vulnerabilities. If one is willing to give controversial (anti-religious, humanist, Darwinian, otherwise morally progressive) theories a chance, one should also give the religious and traditional opinions a chance.

It goes without saying that Eyring wasn’t a fan of

President Joseph Fielding Smith's book "Man: His Origin & Destiny." He set aside the scriptural and prophetic teachings in that volume as merely Smith's opinions.

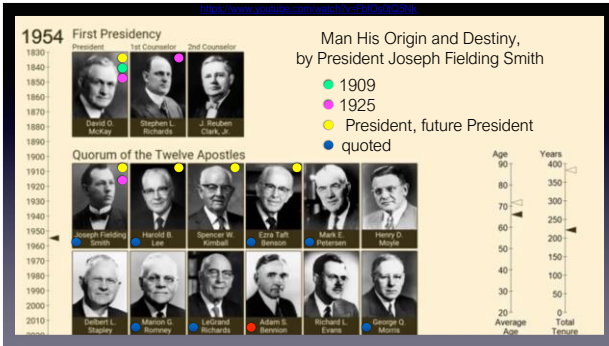
What about Joseph Fielding Smith's 1954 Book "Man: His Origin & Destiny?"



President Joseph Fielding Smith's book (notice he published it as President as the title says), published in 1954, 70 years from the time of this publication, is now more relevant than ever and continues to represent (even if 'unofficially') the message and teachings of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, being filled with teachings of latter-day prophets, scriptures of the restoration, and sound applied reasoning in support of those teachings applicable to address false evolutionary theories of our time.

Smith was Assistant Church Historian from 1906-1921, and Church Historian from 1921-1970. His faithful witness of Joseph Smith and the doctrines of the restoration are unparalleled. Smith was President of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles at the time of the publication and later became President of the Church.

The following chart prepared by Daniel Burdett shows what the leadership of the church was when his landmark 1954 book was written, and which Apostles quoted from it:



(Chart prepared by Daniel Burdett; see his excellent presentations on this subject by the streaming service at bookofmormonevidence.org.)

As you can see, at least three future church Presidents quoted from the book. In total, at least seven Apostles quoted from it. Notice how David O. McKay, sometimes attributed as being soft on evolution, participated in the bold and clear 1909 and 1925 First Presidency statements.

Joseph Fielding Smith wrote to Sterling B. Talmage in 1934 about our right to question science claims which aren't aligned with divine revelation. He said, **"I have not felt that I am under any obligation to accept the theories which are based on scientific research, but have the divine right to question them. I am, however, under obligation to accept revealed truth which comes through the opening of the heavens from the One who 'comprehendeth all things,' and when I find what I believe to be a conflict between the theories of men and the word of the Lord, I am bold to say that I accept the latter with full confidence that the [scientific] theories must be changed. When I think I**

find something which tends to destroy the faith of the youth in these revelations, or which is hurtful to this truth, I have **opposed it with vigor** and have **freely expressed my views**. I believe I am willing to modify my views if the evidence indicated that my interpretation has been wrong.” (Joseph Fielding Smith to Sterling B. Talmage, September 29, 1934. Sterling B. Talmage Papers, Marriott Library.)

Joseph Fielding Smith described how some reacted to his work and defended his writing methods. In a letter to Henry Eyring he said, “I speak frankly and to some my words may appear harsh, and even filled with “ill humor,” by those who hold to the theories I have attacked. Nevertheless I feel that I am justified in referring thus to **those who hold these evolutionary theories** and who feel themselves to be superior in intelligence and wisdom and entitled to treat the rest of us as school boys and need disciplining and have no right to call them in question. It remains a definite fact that the majority of scientists have considered themselves to be superior in intelligence and wisdom.” (Letter to Henry Eyring, <http://signaturebookslibrary.org/agreeing-to-disagree-henry-eyring-and-joseph-fielding-smith/>)

Elder Ronald A. Rasband urged the saints to be proactive in defending prophetic teachings. He said, referring to the prophet, “We do not sit quietly by but actively defend him.” (October 2024 General Conference)

Elder McConkie wrote of Joseph Fielding, “Joseph Fielding Smith is the leading gospel scholar and the greatest doctrinal teacher of this generation. Few men in this dispensation have approached him in gospel knowledge or surpassed him in spiritual insight. His is the faith and the knowledge of his father, President Joseph F. Smith, and his grandfather, the Patriarch Hyrum Smith.” (Bruce R. McConkie, *Doctrines of Salvation*, vol. 1, preface)

Ezra Taft Benson expressed his view and that of Elder Mark E. Peterson, that Fielding’s book was in keeping with the Church. He said, “More recently, one of our Church educators published what he purports to be a history of the Church’s stand on the question of organic evolution. His thesis challenges the integrity of a prophet of God. **He suggests that Joseph Fielding Smith published his work, *Man: His Origin and Destiny*, against the counsel of the First Presidency and his own Brethren. This writer’s interpretation is not only inaccurate, but it also runs counter to the testimony of Elder Mark E. Petersen, who wrote this foreword to Elder Smith’s book, a book I would encourage all to read.** Elder Petersen said: “*Some of us [members of the Council of the Twelve] urged [Elder Joseph Fielding Smith] to write a book on the creation of the world and the origin of man. . . . The present volume is the result. It is a most remarkable presentation of material from both sources [science and religion] under discussion. It will fill a great need in the Church and will be particularly invaluable to students who have become*

confused by the misapplication of information derived from scientific experimentation.” When one understands that the author to whom I alluded is an exponent of the theory of organic evolution, his motive in disparaging President Joseph Fielding Smith becomes apparent. To hold to a private opinion on such matters is one thing, but when one undertakes to publish his views to discredit the work of a prophet, it is a very serious matter. **It is also apparent to all who have the Spirit of God in them that Joseph Fielding Smith’s writings will stand the test of time.”** (President Ezra Taft Benson, “God’s Hand in Our Nation’s History,” March 28, 1977)

A letter from Heber J. Grant to Joseph Fielding Smith said, “I don’t want to flatter you, Joseph, but I want you to know that **I consider you the best posted man on the scriptures of the General Authorities of the church that we have.**” (Letter to Joseph Fielding Smith, Dec. 31, 1938, HDC. Also in Heber J. Grant, in Francis M. Gibbons, *Joseph Fielding Smith: Gospel Scholar, Prophet of God* (1992), 290.)

Later as President of the Church in 1970, Joseph Fielding Smith said, “What I have taught and written in the past I would teach and write again under the same circumstances.” (President Joseph Fielding Smith, Conference Report, October 1970, 5)

David O. McKay praised the work of J. Fielding, saying, “His [Joseph Fielding Smith’s] loyalty to the leadership of the Church has been uncompromising.

He has supported his brethren in every endeavor. No man has ever been more loyal to the President of the Church.” (David O. McKay, Improvement Era, July 1966, p.613)

Ezra Taft Benson encouraged parents to get the book for their children. He said, “I know one noble father who reviews with his children regularly what they have been taught, and if they have been taught any falsehoods; then the children and the father together research out the truth...If your children are taught untruths on evolution in the public schools or even in our Church schools, provide them with a copy of President Joseph Fielding Smith’s excellent rebuttal in his book *Man, His Origin and Destiny*.” (Ezra Taft Benson, *God, Family, Country: Our Three Great Loyalties*, p. 227)

Finally, President N. Eldon Tanner praised the work of Joseph saying, “There is no more faithful person in all the world than Joseph Fielding Smith, ... no one is more in tune, no one is better prepared to receive those directions from the Lord.” (President Nathan Eldon Tanner, speech given at Church Historian’s Office, June 29, 1970. Taken from Joseph Fielding Smith,” *Ensign*, Oct 1976, 96)

My book gives a preview of some teachings from Fielding’s book, but that book contains a wealth of scientific and religious information not featured here.

Of course, there were some complainers. For example,

B.H. Roberts didn't feel Smith was qualified to speak on the subject. Ethics professor Richard Sherlock labeled Smith's work as extreme, unfavorable, antiscientific, refusing to accept evidence, and unqualified in 1980. Duane E. Jeffery in "Seers, Savants, and Evolution: The Uncomfortable Interface" suggests that Fielding's book was out of the norm, antagonistic to science; but those who know church history, doctrine, and the flaws in evolution, the usurper of real science, know that these claims are unfounded.

Smith lamented the prevalence of worldly philosophies even in his time and cheered on the few who have remained faithful. He said, **"The more I see of educated men, I mean those who are trained in the doctrines and philosophies of men now taught in the world, the less regard I have for them. Modern theories which are so popular today just do not harmonize with the Gospel as revealed to the Prophets and it would be amusing if it were not a tragedy to see how some of our educated brethren attempt to harmonize the theories of men with the revealed word of the Lord. Thank the Lord there is still some faith left, and some members who still cherish the word of the Lord and accept the Prophets."** (Joseph Fielding Smith, Small Journals, Dec. 28, 1938. Typescript of this quotation in Eugene Thompson Collection, BYU Archives. https://www.dialoguejournal.com/wp-content/uploads/sbi/articles/Dialogue_V15N01_81.pdf)

Sterling W. Sill, assistant to the Twelve Apostles,

recognized the value of Smith's work in a General Conference address. He said, **I hope I do not embarrass President Joseph Fielding Smith** by speaking about his recent great book entitled *Man—His Origin and Destiny*, which I think is **one of the great books of the Church**. I would like to see every person in the world read this great book, for what knowledge could be more important and helpful to man than the ideas therein presented. **President Smith has packed into this book the study, meditation, and devotion of a lifetime**, but through our reading we may make all of these ideas our own in a week or a month. This is one of the advantages of **a great book**.” (Sterling W. Sill, Assistant to the Council of the Twelve Apostles, Our Greatest Responsibility, *Conference Report*, October 1954, pp. 27-29)

Elder James E. Faust was aware of those who found themselves wiser than the prophets. He said, “**Isaiah** spoke of a people who **did not care to listen to their prophets and seers**, who were urged, “Say to the seers, See not; and to the prophets, Prophecy not unto us right things, speak unto us smooth things, prophecy deceits” (Isa. 30:10).”

<https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/study/general-conference/1986/10/unwanted-messages?lang=eng>

Get a copy of Joseph Fielding Smith's book and see for yourself!

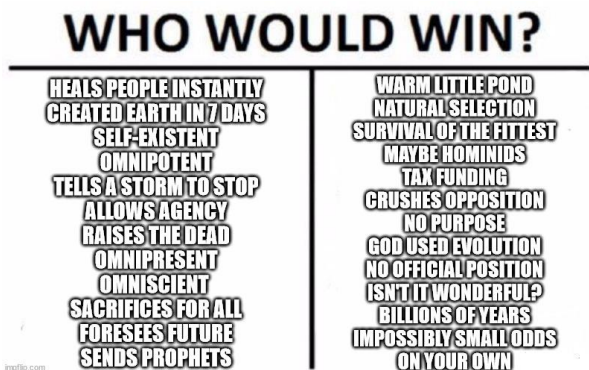
eBook:

<https://www.deseretbook.com/product/5088047.html>

Paperback:

<https://www.archivepublishers.com/history-books/Man-His-Origin-and-Destiny-1954-p451573980>

Used: <https://www.amazon.com/Origin-Destiny-Joseph-Fielding-Smith/dp/B00073363I>



President Nelson Repeatedly Denounces Evolution

Here I do want to speak about our current Church President Nelson's statements against evolution just in

case people think that being anti-evolution is some outdated thinking of the past which doesn't continue in the church today. First let's look at the attention given to President Nelson in the Let's Talk book:

On page 37 the LTSR authors speak of true science and religion not being in conflict, and footnote to statements by Elder Russell M Nelson given at the BYU Life Science building dedication in 2015 where all he said were some vague statements about it being a place of learning. At no point in the dedication did Nelson suggest any possibility of evolution being true or possible.

The authors leave out multiple statements by Nelson showing his adamant rejection of evolution theory.

You can chalk Russell M Nelson on the list of those who directly refuted evolutionary theory, as the following quotes demonstrate.

Here Elder Nelson responded to the question of whether the church has an official position on Darwinian evolution. Look at the conversation: "Different denominations deal differently with questions about life's origins and development. Conservative denominations tend to have more trouble with **Darwinian evolution. Does the church have an official position on this topic?**

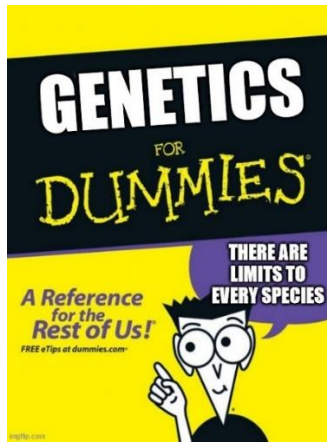
Nelson: [We believe that God is our creator and that he has created other forms of life. It's interesting to me,](#)

drawing on my 40 years experience as a medical doctor, how similar those species are. We developed open-heart surgery, for example, experimenting on lower animals simply because the same creator made the human being. We owe a lot to those lower species. **But** to think that man evolved from one species to another is, to me, incomprehensible.

Why is that?

Nelson: **Man has always been man. Dogs have always been dogs. Monkeys have always been monkeys. It's just the way genetics works.**" (May 16 2007, In Focus: Mormonism in Modern America, Pew Forum on Religion & Public Life interview with Russell M. Nelson
<https://bycommonconsent.com/2007/05/20/elder-nelson-doesnt-believe-in-evolution/>)





“...some people erroneously think that these marvelous physical attributes happened by chance or resulted from a big bang somewhere. Ask yourself, “Could an explosion in a printing shop produce a dictionary?” The likelihood is *most* remote. But if so, it could never heal its own torn pages or reproduce its own newer editions!” (Russell M. Nelson, Conf. Report April 2012, Thanks Be To God <https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/study/general-conference/2012/04/thanks-be-to-god?lang=eng>)



"Through the ages, **some without scriptural understanding** have tried to explain our existence by **pretentious words** such as **ex nihilo** (out of nothing). Others have deduced that, because of certain

similarities between different forms of life, there has been a **natural selection** of the species, or organic evolution from one form to another. Still others have concluded that man came as a consequence of a “**big bang**” that resulted in the creation of our planet and life upon it. **To me, such theories are unbelievable!**" (Russell M. Nelson, BYU, 1987, "The Magnificence of Man")

"The creation of a **PARADISIACAL PLANET** came from God. MORTALITY AND DEATH CAME INTO THE WORLD through the Fall of Adam. Immortality and the possibility of eternal life were provided by the Atonement of Jesus Christ." (Russell M. Nelson, April 2000, General Conference, "The Creation"
<https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/study/general-conference/2000/04/the-creation?lang=eng>)

Nelson's above teaching of the pre-fall paradise planet is particularly useful against the Christian evolutionist claim that before the fall, things were evolving 'outside of Eden' but not in Eden. The prophetic teaching is that the whole planet was a paradise planet before the fall! Does natural selection, survival of the fittest, animals killing each other for millions of years, sound like a paradise planet? Remember 2 Ne. 2:22 emphatically states that "all" things must have remained in the state after which they were created were it not for the fall of Adam. It reads: **"...all things which were created must have remained in the same state in which they were**

after they were **created**; and they must have remained forever, and had no end. **23** And they would have had **no children**; ...”

Elder Nelson even urged us to help those who are stuck on the theory of natural selection, the engine of evolution. He said, “It is **incumbent upon each informed and spiritually attuned person to help overcome such foolishness of those who would deny divine creation or think that mankind simply evolved.** by the spirit, we perceive the **truer and more believable** wisdom of God.” (p10, *The Power Within Us*, or *The Magnificence of Man*, March 29 1987, BYU Devotional <https://speeches.byu.edu/talks/russell-m-nelson/magnificence-man/>)

Elder Nelson found 55 verses attesting man’s divine creation. He said, “We are children of God, created by him and formed in his image. Recently I studied the scriptures simply to find how many times they testify of the divine creation of man. Looking up references that referred either to *create* or *form* (or their derivatives) with either *man*, *men*, *male*, or *female* in the same verse, I found that there are at least fifty-five verses of scripture that attest to our divine creation (**Genesis 1:27; 2:7, 8; 5:1, 2; 6:7; Deuteronomy 4:32; Isaiah 45:12; Malachi 2:10; Mark 10:6; Romans 9:20; Ephesians 3:9; Colossians 3:10; 2 Nephi 1:10; 2:15; 9:6; 29:7; Jacob 4:9; Mosiah 4:2, 9; 7:27; Alma 1:4; 18:32, 34, 36; 22:12, 13; Mormon 9:12, 17; Ether 1:3;**

3:15, 16; Moroni 10:3; **D&C** 20:18; 29:30, 34; **77:2**; 77:12; 93:29; **Moses** 1:8; **2:27**; **3:5, 7**, 8, 9; 6:8, 9; 7:32; 8:26; Abraham 4:26, 27; 5:7, 8, 14, 16).” (*The Magnificence of Man*, March 29 1987, BYU Devotional, <https://speeches.byu.edu/talks/russell-m-nelson/magnificence-man/>)

Russell M. Nelson was President of the church at the time of the publication of the ‘Let’s Talk Science & Religion’ book, which makes its sale at the Church bookstore very mysterious, if not rebellious in light of his repeated teachings against evolution. Everyone in the Latter-day Saint science vs religion controversy knows that President Nelson has openly and repeatedly renounced evolution.

(PS – some say Nelson wasn’t a scientist, but did he not discover laws of nature pertaining to the operation of the human heart? Sounds like a scientist to me. Furthermore, the idea that someone has to be a scientist to know about these matters itself is un-American.)

(PSS – it’s also stunning to me that high school biology curriculum has not removed all study of human anatomy, something certainly more central to scientific truth and comprehension than many of the other silly things in their curriculum, like the various classes of worms.)

To demonstrate that teaching against evolution still occurs in the restored Church, let's look at what Elder Allan Phillips in the Oct. 2023 General Conference taught. He said, “You are not an accidental by-product of nature, a cosmic orphan, or the result of matter plus time plus chance. Where there is design, there is a designer.”

This teaching indicates that if God is the designer, and therefore that there is no need for natural selection, survival of the fittest, and millions of years of chance mutations to account for human and animal life on earth. Installing God in as creator is half the battle, but due to persistence of Christian evolutionists, we must take it further and demonstrate how the fact of God as creator completely eliminates the need for evolutionary science.



Debunking the Claim that First Presidency Statements Don't "Confirm Or Deny" Evolution

On page 49-50 the LTSR authors cite two first presidency statements about the origin of man, and they make the claim that “Neither [1st Presidency] statement confirmed or denied the claims of evolutionary science...” Consider the 2 statements and see for yourself:

Excerpt from 1ST Presidency Statement titled “The Origin of Man” in 1909: **“It is held by some that Adam was not the first man upon this earth, and that the original human being was a development from lower orders of the animal creation. These, however, are the theories of men. The word of the Lord declares that Adam was ‘the first man of all men’ (Moses 1:34), and we are therefore in duty bound to regard him as the primal parent of our race. It was shown to the brother of Jared that all men were created in the beginning after the image of God; and whether we take this to mean the spirit or the body, or both, it commits us to the same conclusion: **Man began life as a human being, in the likeness of our Heavenly Father.**”** (The First Presidency, “The Origin of Man,” *Improvement Era*, Nov. 1909, 81; *Ensign*, Feb. 2002, 30.) (Joseph F. Smith, John R. Winder,

Anthony H. Lund) (Reprinted in the Ensign 2002 at <https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/study/ensign/2002/02/the-origin-of-man?lang=eng>)

Note that the above 1909 statement reprinted in the 2002 Ensign magazine. In the magazine, the a preface to the statement was given as follows: “*In the early 1900s, questions concerning the Creation of the earth and the **theories of evolution** became the subject of much public discussion. In the midst of these controversies, the First Presidency issued the following in 1909, which **expresses the Church’s doctrinal position on these matters.***” You can view the 2002 Ensign article at this link:

<https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/study/ensign/2002/02/the-origin-of-man?lang=eng>.

Let’s Talk authors also site this, also from 1909 “The Origin of Man” which was repeated in the 1925 First Presidency Statement: “...All men and women are in the similitude of the universal Father and Mother, and are **literally sons and daughters** of Deity...**Man is the child of God, formed in the divine image and endowed with divine attributes**, and even as **the infant son of an earthly** father and mother is capable in due time of becoming a man, so that undeveloped offspring of celestial parentage is capable, by experience through ages and aeons, of evolving into a God.” (“**Mormon View of Evolution:**” **1925 First Presidency Message.** Heber J. Grant, Anthony W.

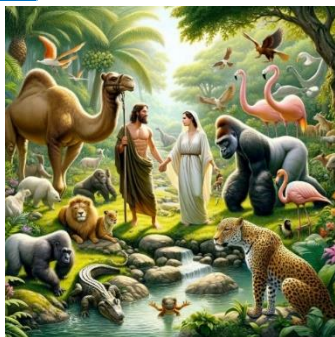
Ivins, Charles W. Nibley)

The following paragraph from “The Origin of Man” was not included in the excerpt in Let’s Talk about Science, notice it’s focused contradiction of evolution in saying man is “direct and lineal offspring” of God: “The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, basing its belief on divine revelation, ancient and modern, **proclaims man to be the direct and lineal offspring of Deity.** By his Almighty power God organized the earth, and all that it contains, from spirit and element, which exist co-eternally with himself.” (Origin of Man, 1909, First Presidency)



Remember the authors claim, that “Neither [1st Presidency] statement confirmed or denied the claims of evolutionary science...” So, what do you think? I believe that these First Presidency statements were obvious, clear, and direct refutations of evolution theory. What other theories would the prophets have been referring to? To me, denying the plain meaning of these passages is a great feat of Orwellian

‘doublespeak’ word games. Elder McConkie also called for the plain acceptance of the 1909 message. He said, “Should we accept the famous document of the First Presidency issued in the days of President Joseph F. Smith and entitled “**The Origin of Man**” as **meaning exactly what it says?**” (Elder Bruce R. McConkie, June 1, 1980, The Seven Deadly Heresies, <https://speeches.byu.edu/talks/bruce-r-mcconkie/seven-deadly-heresies/>)



I think the **evolutionist authors’ position would be stronger if they admitted** that the **Church’s statements were against evolution** but that they had a new and improved way of seeing things. Instead, they have chosen to claim that their views and Church views aren’t so different. It’s hard for Church members and investigators to take the evolutionists in the Church seriously when they have the plain Church teachings before them, and they hear **these evolutionists say that the Church isn’t saying what it is**. One honest person stated, “*This message from the First Presidency was anti-evolution and science.*” (The Daily Universe, Rachel Keeler, July 30, 2019)

<https://universe.byu.edu/2019/07/30/the-church-and-byu-an-evolution-of-evolution/>) While I've stated that I don't believe it is fair to equate evolution with science, this person's blunt statement is refreshingly honest in recognizing that the 1909 statement was clearly a specific rebuke against evolutionary theory.

Yes, one of the statements used the word “**evolve.**” But Darwinists have hijacked the word evolve to mean man coming from monkeys and to mean that the universe came from an explosion. How obtuse! Evolve doesn't have to mean these things, it can (and used to) simply infer change & improvement. In the context of the whole statement, it's **obvious** that the Church statement's use of the word 'evolve' wasn't referring to the organic Darwinian evolution of human origins, but rather to future progress humans must yet make before attaining godhood.

Yes, one of the statements used the word **aeons** [eons]. To an evolutionist, that sounds like millions and billions of years. Again, clearly, they're not referring to human origins, but to progress we must yet make before attaining godhood. Further, the word 'eons' does not and has not necessarily meant millions of years. It has, for example, often been used to indicate a time interval such as 1,000 years.

One sure evidence of the timeframe indicated in the above statement about our future progress to attain godhood indicating a much shorter timespan than

millions of years is found in D&C 132:37. This passage indicates that Abraham is already a god. It says, “...they have entered into their exaltation, according to the promises, and sit upon thrones, and are not angels but are gods.” So apparently, for the faithful, the ‘eons’ to become a god are only a few thousand years.

Let us trust in the scriptures and the clear meaning of the prophets rather than the biased agenda-laden interpretations of die-hard evolutionists who are never satisfied until the whole world sees things their way. Let us not insist that the prophets conform to the theories of men; let us rather take counsel at their hand.

Evolution says Adam was not the first man, but that he was a result of evolution; that Adam was the son of someone who was a hominid, not the son of God. The Church statements say Adam was the “direct lineal offspring of Deity”, which is something very different. Evolution completely rejects man as fallen (from higher realms of God), and claims the opposite, that the earliest man is a result of progress upward (from lower realms of beasts).

The rejection of painfully clear teachings on the origin of man in the restored church lead me to believe that the attempt to mesh evolution with established religious doctrine approaches the prophecy of Isaiah 5:20, “Woe unto them that call evil good, and good

evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!” With so many plain and precious truths restored, the latter-day saints of all Christian peoples should know better than to accept evolution.



I'm a child
of God, by processes
of evolution
from lower species.

I'm the
direct lineal
offspring of God.

At our Church schools, we should make students aware of the theories of men, such as evolution, since they are big parts of this world, but we should not advocate accepting those theories, as happens at BYU and now Deseret Book! BYU is currently a leader among secular universities trying to persuade conservative religious students to accept evolution. We should humble ourselves and insist on being a school that refutes evolution like many fellow Christian schools are already righteously doing. Rejecting falsehoods of evolution will bring BYU more respect (from sources that actually matter) and improve our integrity as a Christian university. I use the word integrity in this context because I don't believe we can fully embrace evolutionary science claims and their implications

while maintaining an honest stance with our scriptures (not to mention the consistent chorus of teachings from our leaders for the past 200 years).

The truths about the creation are nothing new. The 1st Presidency introduced their clear statement as follows: “In presenting the statement that follows we are not conscious of putting forth anything essentially new; neither is it our desire so to do. Truth is what we wish to present, and truth—eternal truth—is fundamentally old. A restatement of the original attitude of the Church relative to this matter is all that will be attempted here. To tell the truth as God has revealed it, and commend it to the acceptance of those who need to conform their opinions thereto, is the sole purpose of this presentation.” (1909 Origin of Man)

Anonymous 1910 Statement Erroneously Haired as Coming from the First Presidency

On page 62 the LTSR authors quote the following, claiming it as a First Presidency statement headed by Joseph F. Smith, though it’s actually just from a youth manual, has no signature, and could have been written by anyone: “Whether the mortal bodies of man evolved in natural processes to present perfection, through the direction and power of God; whether the

first parents of our generations, Adam and Eve, were **transplanted from another sphere**, with immortal tabernacles, which became corrupted through sin...(or) whether they were **born here in mortality**, as other mortals have been, are questions **not fully answered** in the revealed word of God” (SUPPOSEDLY First Presidency of Joseph F. Smith, Improvement Era, April 1910, 13:570) (actually it’s just from an anonymous Church manual as you’ll see, and there’s a big difference.)

The LDS Answers website (LDSAnswers.org), affiliated with the Joseph Smith Foundation (JosephSmithFoundation.org), has thoroughly treated this quote, and I’ll draw up a few points they made. For their full article, visit <https://ldsanswers.org/a-response-to-the-erroneously-attributed-1910-first-presidency-message/>.

The statement appeared in the “Priesthood Quorums’ Table” with no attribution and it has never been known who the author was. There was **no signature** on the article by the First Presidency, or by Joseph F. Smith. Despite it being heralded as a First Presidency statement in the book *Mormonism and Evolution: The Authoritative LDS Statements*, p. 42-44 by Evenson and Jeffery.

The LDS Answers page explains that Improvement Era articles were often anonymous. They say, “Realize that

the Improvement Era **contained numerous anonymous comments and articles on various religious and secular topics.** The articles that were written by the First Presidency, by President Joseph F. Smith or by other leaders such as “The Origin of Man” published in 1909 and “The Father and The Son: A Doctrinal Exposition by The First Presidency and The Twelve” published in 1916 are **clearly distinguishable** as to who the author or authors are. Some believe that the article cited above was **written by someone on the General Priesthood Committee, but we will probably never know** in this life as articles were published by many who were not members of the General Committee. It could have been written by any member of the Church. The articles that President Smith or others wrote always bore their names, where this 1910 message was unidentified.”

You can view the 1910 April Improvement Era where the quote is from, and look at it [here](#):

gregation who are unworthy to partake of it, it is their duty to so report to the bishop, and await the bishop's instruction (read III Nephil 18: 2-20).

[illegible]

To the Seventies' Quorums:—The First Council is advised that the *Isaacson News Book Store* is getting out a second edition of *Elmer N. L. Nelson's Preaching and Public Speaking*; also that the book, after having been thoroughly revised by the author, has been read critically by a committee suggested by the First Presidency, and has been accepted as worthy the study of all who expect to take part in the minis-
ters of the Latter-day Saints.

Now, while the first reputation of a Latter-day Saint preacher is the testimony of the gospel, and the second, a wide range of facts and truths to sustain that testimony, those prime qualifications become effective only to the extent that he can awake and hold the attention of his audience. In other words, his effectiveness will depend, to a very large extent, upon his method of presentation. In this respect, Elder Nelson's book will be found helpful. We, therefore, cordially recommend it to the Latter-day Saint preacher, and especially to those preachers for missions.

Sunny Natures.—To be a successful governor, and an attractive teacher of young men, one must have not only firmness, a keen sense of right, and love for the members of the class, but also a sunny disposition. One who can estimate the value of a satire so sunny people everywhere that to body! can actually waste to get our sunny people, everybody that to know them. They open, without effort, doors which intense animosity are called to pry open with great difficulty, or perhaps cannot open at all. Teachers of desecrated grounds should be sought who have these qualities. Teachers of desecrated grounds should be sought for the biologists. When found they will serve to a great extent the grave question of order, or disorder, and so on, as everywhere in the life of the organism.

Priesthood Quorums' Table.

Origin of Man.—"In just what manner did the mortal bodies of Adam and Eve come into existence on this earth?" This question comes from several High Priests' questions.

Of course, all are familiar with the statements in Genesis 1:26, 27, 28; 2:2; also in the Book of Moses, Part of Great Priests, 2:27; and in the Book of Abraham 5:1. The latter statement reads: "And the Gods formed man from the dust of the ground, and took his spirit (that is, the spirit of man) from the spirit of the Lord, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and man became a living soul."

These are the authentic statements of the scriptures, ancient as well as modern, and it is best to rest with them, until the Lord shall see fit to give more light on the subject. Whether the mortal bodies of man were created in natural processes to present perfection, through the direction and power of God; whether the first parents of our generation, Adam and Eve, were transplanted from another sphere, with immortal tabernacles, which bodies corrupted through sin and the perishing of natural elements, in the process of time; whether they were born in mortality, and then immortalized, as the scriptures do not fully ascertained. (See *Journal of the Latter Day Saints' Conference*, 1844, pp. 10-12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 389, 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 8

The Holy Sacrament.—"Is it, or is it not, proper for an elder passing the sacrament, to refuse to give it to one he knows to be unworthy of partaking of it?"

It is the duty of the bishop-elect to sit in judgment in such a case. By the authority vested in the bishop, as a high priest, the sacrament is administered. It is his charge, and if there are members in the congregation who are unworthy of the sacrament, it is the duty of the bishop, and to no one else, to sit in judgment in such a case. Therefore it is not proper for an elder to refuse to allow the sacrament, when he has previously been instructed to do so by the bishop of the ward. But, if the elders who administer the sacrament have of persons in the con-



No Names?

Who wrote it?



Origin of Man.—"Is just what manner did the mortal bodies of Adam and Eve come into existence on this earth." This question comes from several High Priests' queries.

or more, all are familiar with the statements in Genesis 1:26, 27:

1:26: "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the fowls of the air, over the beasts, and over all the earth."
1:27: "also in the Book of Moses, Part of Great Prime, 2: 27; and in the Book of Abraham 5: 7. The latter statement reads: "And the God created man from the dust of the ground, and took his spirit [that is, the immortal man] from the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul."¹⁰

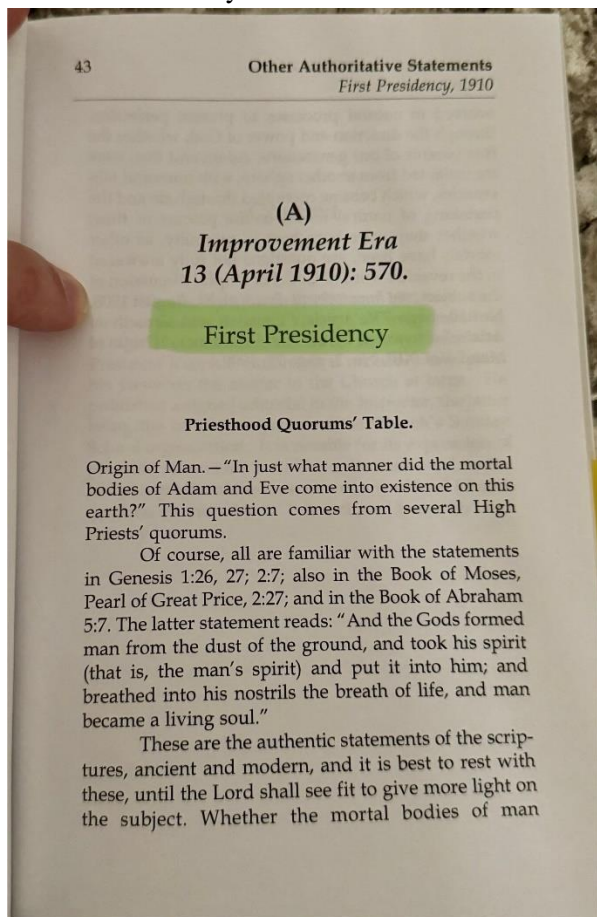
Thus, as the authors themselves of the *Leitfaden* point out, and as we have seen, it is not hard to work with these, until the *Leitfaden* itself is too light on its legs, on the subject. Whether the mortal bodies of man actually are subject to animal processes to prevent perfuming, through the diabolical and power of God, without the first portions of our ancestors, Adam and Eve, were transplanted from another sphere, with somewhat later releases, which became transplanted through us into the pecking of material existence in the present time, whether or not even this is a possibility, is not clear. (See *Leitfaden*, pp. 100-101.)

The Holy Sacrament.—"Is it not, proper for an elder receiving the sacrament, to refuse to give it to one he knows to be unworthy of partaking of it?"

It is the duty of the bishop, acting in judgment, to seek a way to the altar. By the authority vested in the bishop, as a high priest, the sacrament is administered. It is his charge, and if there are members in the congregation who are unworthy of the sacrament, it is the duty of the bishop, acting in judgment, to refuse to administer it. Therefore it is not proper for an officer to refuse any person the sacrament, unless he has previously been instructed to do so by the bishop of the ward. First, the officers who administer the sacrament have no authority to refuse the sacrament to any one else, to all in judgment is such a case. Therefore it is not proper for an officer to refuse any person the sacrament, unless he has previously been instructed to do so by the bishop of the ward. First, the officers who administer the sacrament have no authority to refuse the sacrament to any one else, to all in judgment is such a case.

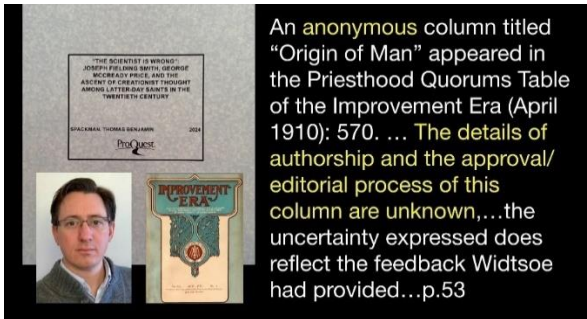
<https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/473a9121-322c-4c1c-9d8f-381593efb0e0/0/0>

have erroneously asserted that this statement is from the First Presidency:



evolved in natural processes to present perfection, through the direction and power of God; whether the first parents of our generations, Adam and Eve, were transplanted from another sphere, with immortal tabernacles, which became corrupted through sin and the partaking of natural foods, in the process of time; whether they were born here in mortality, as other mortals have been, are questions not fully answered in the revealed word of God. For helpful discussion of the subject, see *Improvement Era*, Vol. XI, August 1908, No. 10, page 778, article, "Creation and Growth of Adam;" also article by the First Presidency, "Origin of Man," Vol. XIII, No. 1, page 75, 1909.

Even secular evolutionist Ben Spackman acknowledges that this 1910 statement IS NOT a First Presidency statement in his paper against 'Creationism' in the 20th century among the Latter-day Saints.



The composite image consists of three main elements. At the top left is a book cover with the title "THE SCIENTIST IS WRONG: JOSEPH FIELDS SMITH, GEORGE MCCREARY PRICE, AND THE ASCENT OF CREATIONIST THOUGHT AMONG LATTER-DAY SAINTS IN THE TWENTIETH CENTURY" by SPACKMAN, THOMAS BENJAMIN, published in 2014 by ProQuest. Below this is a portrait of Ben Spackman, a man with glasses and a grey sweater. To the right of the portrait is a book cover of the "IMPROVEMENT ERA" from April 1910, featuring a decorative design with a central emblem.

An anonymous column titled "Origin of Man" appeared in the Priesthood Quorums Table of the *Improvement Era* (April 1910): 570. ... The details of authorship and the approval/ editorial process of this column are unknown,...the uncertainty expressed does reflect the feedback Widsøe had provided...p.53

So why do LTSR and other pro-evolution publications claim this 1910 statement to be from the First Presidency? This is one of many clear examples of wanting your version of something to be true so much that you hype up shreds of evidence beyond what they are worth. Saying this is from the First Presidency would add lots of



clout, but it's simply not true! Sadly, most of us don't have the time of day to hunt down inaccuracies like this, and we are led astray by our blind guides. Perhaps those familiar with the real First Presidency statement from a year prior, in 1909, were able to feel that something was off about this claim.

1910 Statement Doesn't Align with Joseph F. Smith's Consistent Teachings:

Joseph F. Smith's official statement is from 1909, one year before the supposed 1910 quote, which is an official 1st Presidency statement titled "The Origin of Man," was clearly against evolution. It taught that man is "[direct lineal offspring of Deity.](#)" It says, "[It is held by some that Adam was not the first man upon this earth, and that the original human being was a](#)

development from lower orders of the animal creation. These, however, are the theories of men.”

Many Church presidents consistently taught that Adam was the literal offspring of God, so the supposed 1910 quote doesn’t match what was going on. The supposed 1910 quote is at odds with everything Smith ever taught on the subject. Consider his consistent quotations on the subject:

“Our father Adam—that is our earthly father—the progenitor of the human race of man, stands at the head being ‘Michael the Archangel, the Ancient of Days,’ and...was not fashioned from earth like an adobe but begotten by his Father in Heaven.” (President Joseph F. Smith, President Anthon H. Lund, and President Charles W. Penrose. The First Presidency, Letter to Samuel O. Bennion, February 26, 1912)

“We did not spring from spawn. Our spirits existed from the beginning, have existed always, and will continue forever. We did not pass through the ordeals of embodiment in the lesser animals in order to reach the perfection to which we have attained in manhood and womanhood, in the image and likeness of God. God was and is our Father, and his children were begotten in the flesh of his own image and likeness, male and female.” (Joseph F. Smith, Gospel Doctrine, p. 25)

Nowadays, no science professors who don't support evolution would be hired at BYU. This swap has taken place in one short generation, and many of the older generations are still unaware that evolution is being taught and advocated at BYU. Brigham wanted schools to counter the false philosophies of Darwin and Marx expressly, but we have now gone backward on these topics at BYU.

3 BYU Professors Fired for Teaching Evolution & Liberal Doctrines

Joseph F. Smith knew that evolution is certainly not one of the possibilities for the arrival of Adam, as evidenced by his firing 3 BYU professors who taught organic evolution in 1909.

In Boyd K. Packer's BYU speech "The Snow-White Birds" (<https://speeches.byu.edu/talks/boyd-k-packer/snow-white-birds/>) he talks about the firing of these professors, and a stirring events surrounding it, including a visionary dream of the negative effects of evolution teaching on students. Here is an excerpt from Elder Packer's address:

"George H. Brimhall, having already served nineteen years as president of BYU, determined to establish a recognized teachers college. He had hired three professors: one with a master's degree from Harvard, one with a doctorate from Cornell, and the other with a

doctorate from Chicago. They hoped to transform the college into a full-fledged university. They determined that practicality and religion, which had characterized the school, must now give way to more intellectual and scientific philosophies.

The professors held that “the fundamentals of religion could and must be investigated by extending the [empirical] method into the spiritual realm,” and they “considered evolution to be a basic, spiritual principle through which the divinity in nature expressed itself.” (Ernest L. Wilkinson, ed., *Brigham Young University: The First One Hundred Years*, vol. 1 (Provo, Utah: Brigham Young University Press, 1975), 415.) The faculty sided with the new professors and the students rallied to them.

Horace H. Cummings, superintendent of Church schools, became concerned because they were “applying the evolutionary theory and other philosophical hypotheses to principles of the gospel and to the teachings of the Church in such a way as to disturb, if not destroy the faith of the pupils,” and he wrote, “Many stake presidents, some of our leading principals and teachers, and leading men who are friends of our schools have expressed deep anxiety to me about this matter.” (*Years*, 1:419.)



Superintendent Cummings reported to the board that

1. *The teachers were following the “higher criticism” . . . , treating the Bible as “a collection of myths, folklore, dramas, literary productions, history and some inspiration.”*
2. *They rejected the flood, the confusion of tongues, the miracle of the Red Sea, and the temptation of Christ as real phenomena.*
3. *They said John the Revelator was not translated but died in the year A.D. 96.*
4. *“The theory of evolution is treated as a demonstrated law and their applications of it to gospel truths give rise to many curious and conflicting explanations of scripture.”*
5. *The teachers carried philosophical ideas too far: (1) “They believed sinners should be pitied and enlightened rather than blamed or punished,” (2) and they believed that “we should never agree. God never made two things alike. Only by taking different views of a thing can its real truth be seen.”*
6. . . . *[not included in the transcript]*
7. *The professors taught that “all truths change as we change. Nothing is fixed or reliable.”*
8. *They also taught that “visions and revelations are mental suggestions. The objective reality of the presence of the Father and the Son, in Joseph Smith’s first vision, is questioned.”⁴*

Superintendent Cummings concluded his report by saying that the professors “seem to feel that they have a mission to protect the young from the errors of their parents.”⁵

President Brimhall himself defended the professors—that is, until some students “frankly told him they had quit praying because they learned in school there was no real God to hear them.” (*Years*, 1:421.)

Shortly thereafter President Brimhall had a dream.

He saw several of the BYU professors standing around a peculiar machine on the campus. When one of them touched a spring a baited fish hook attached to a long thin wire rose rapidly into the air. . . .

Casting his eyes around the sky he [President Brimhall] discovered a flock of snow-white birds circling among the clouds and disporting themselves in the sky, seemingly very happy. Presently one of them, seeing the bait on the hook, darted toward it and grabbed it. Instantly one of the professors on the ground touched a spring in the machine, and the bird was rapidly hauled down to the earth.

On reaching the ground the bird proved to be a BYU student, clad in an ancient Greek costume, and was directed to join a group of other students who had been brought down in a similar manner. Brother Brimhall walked over to them, and noticing that all of them looked very sad, discouraged and downcast, he asked them:

“Why, students, what on earth makes you so sad and downhearted?”

“Alas, we can never fly again!” they replied with a sigh and a sad shake of the head.

Their Greek philosophy had tied them to the earth. They could believe only what they could demonstrate in the laboratory. Their prayers could go no higher than the ceiling. They could see no heaven—no hereafter. (Years, 1:421–22.)

Now deeply embarrassed by the controversy and caught between opposing factions, President Brimhall at first attempted to be conciliatory. He said, “I have been hoping for a year or two past that harmony could be secured by waiting, but the delays have been fraught with increased danger.” (*Years*, 1:430.) When an exercise in *administrative diplomacy* suddenly became an *issue of faith*, President Brimhall acted.”

[End of Packer excerpt.]

In conclusion, the Joseph Smith Foundation article writes, “*The issues surrounding the three professors became more serious. President Brimhall defended his professors, but as time continued the pressure became great. Eventually, President Joseph F. Smith had the professors removed from the faculty.*”

President Joseph F. Smith gave this reasoning for his actions in the matter (firing the professors):

“Recently there was some trouble...in one of the leading Church schools—the training college of the Brigham Young University—where three of the professors advanced certain theories on evolution as applied to the origin of man, and certain opinions on “higher criticism,” as conclusive and demonstrated truths. This was done although it is well known that evolution and the “higher criticism” . . . are in conflict on some matters with the scriptures, including some modern revelation . . . The Church, on the contrary, holds to the definite authority of divine revelation which must be the standard; and that, as so-called “science” has changed from age to age in its deductions, and as divine revelation is truth, and must abide forever, views as to the lesser should conform to the positive statements of the greater; and, further, that in institutions founded by the Church for the teaching of theology, as well as other branches of education, its instructors must be in harmony in their teachings with its principles and doctrines . . . as teachers in a Church school they could not be given opportunity to inculcate theories that were out of harmony with the recognized doctrines of the Church, and hence [they were] required to refrain from so doing . . . “ (Joseph F. Smith, “Theory and Divine Revelation”, Editor’s Table., Improvement Era, 1911, Vol. Xiv. April, 1911. No. 6).

Students were already entranced by these false teachings and protested the firing of the three professors. In an article celebrating 50 years of evolution teaching at BYU, this news clipping was shown, demonstrating their insistence on the false theory of separating spiritual and temporal things:

B. Y. U. STUDENTS DESTROY REPLY OF PRESIDENCY AND MAKE PUBLIC THE PROTEST THEY FORMULATED

**Diplomatically but Firmly They Warn the Faculty
That if Modern Teachings Are Excluded They
Must Look Elsewhere for Their Education;
Demand Freedom of Investigation**

SAY CHURCH CANNOT IGNORE SCIENCE

**Evolution, Petition Declares, Gives New View of
Mormon Religion, but Accounts for More
Facts Than Any Other Hypothesis; Re-
tention of Professors Asked**

*B. Y. U. students, asking for the retention of three teachers
of evolution and the higher criticism, present the following argu-
ments:*

No church is big enough to ignore science.

Freedom of investigation requisite to progress.

If the Mormon gospel is true it will triumph over error without ar-
tificial aid.

Theology, not science, is the church's matter.

Evolution, although causing students to view Mormon doctrine in dif-
ferent light, nevertheless accounts for more actual facts than any other
hypothesis.

If these professors go none other of like scholarship and like sym-
pathy with Mormonism can be found.

Their removal will hurt school's credit in eastern universities.

Students would be compelled to look elsewhere for a complete educa-

(<https://lifesciences.byu.edu/magazine/50-years-of-teaching-evolution-at-byu>)



Issues with the ‘No Official Church Position on Evolution’ Claim

On page 50 LTSR cites a Church youth magazine quote which claims that the Church has **no official position** on the theory of evolution. Here is the magazine quote: “The Church has no official position on the theory of evolution. Organic evolution, or changes to species’ inherited traits over time, is a matter for scientific study. Nothing has been revealed concerning evolution. Though the details of what happened on earth before Adam and Eve, including how their bodies were created, have not been revealed, our teachings regarding man’s origin are clear and come from revelation.” (New Era Magazine, Oct. 2016, What does the Church believe about evolution? (churchofjesuschrist.org))

There are several issues here. First this is not a First Presidency statement, it is not in our canon of scripture, and it therefore is not doctrine. One need not accept this opinion piece to remain in good standing in the church. This is just a youth magazine, and the author of the article isn't even named. The President of the Church is the only man with the keys to speak for the Church, and if this were from him, his name would have been on it. Additionally, as you'll see, he (Russell M. Nelson) has repeatedly made statements against evolution, and as we've shown, actual 1st Presidency Church statements have already made our position clear (against it).

Fortunately, the article does have a further reading section where they point you to this more detailed church teaching against evolution: [The Origin of Man \(churchofjesuschrist.org\)](http://TheOriginofMan(churchofjesuschrist.org)) What does "The Origin of Man" say about Adam? We cited it above in the section on 1st Presidency statements. It says man is "direct lineal offspring of Deity." It says, "It is held by some that Adam was not the first man upon this earth, and that the original human being was a development from lower orders of the animal creation. These, however, are the theories of men." So here we have an **article saying no official position, which links to a 1st Presidency statement, which gives the official position!**

The New Era magazine article's 'no official position' claim is busted!

In 2002 when the Ensign Magazine reprinted the 1909 statement, they prefaced it with the following statement: *“In the early 1900s, questions concerning the Creation of the earth and the **theories of evolution** became the subject of much public discussion. In the midst of these controversies, the First Presidency issued the following in 1909, which **expresses the Church’s doctrinal position on these matters.**”* You can view the 2002 Ensign article at this link: <https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/study/ensign/2002/02/the-origin-of-man?lang=eng>.

Sadly, BYU’s Bean Science Museum follows suit. BYU’s ‘The Daily Universe’ reported, *“**BYU** opened an **evolution** exhibit in March 2019 in the Bean Life Science Museum that **illustrates the process of evolution at a macro level.** There is a plaque posted on the exhibit stating that it is not Church doctrine and **the Church has no stance on the issue.**”* (<https://universe.byu.edu/2019/07/30/the-church-and-byu-an-evolution-of-evolution/>)

Perspectives of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

The sun is the ultimate source of power to the earth. Christ is likened to the sun in scripture and He is the ultimate power to faith. Without the impact of the sun, both faith and science are not possible.

"Our religion is not hostile to real science. That which is demonstrated, we accept with joy"

(First Presidency, 1910).



The Bean Life Science Museum focuses on the biodiversity, ecology and evolution of earth's organisms. Of this focus, evolution is the most controversial. The Church has no official position on the theory of evolution: *"Organic evolution, or changes to species' inherited traits over time, is a matter for scientific study. **Nothing has been revealed concerning evolution**".* (New Era, Oct. 2016).

Image: Sign at the BYU Bean Life Science Museum, echoing the false claim that there is no revelation about evolution.

The evolutionists are certainly having their day. Remember Spackman's claims, "Now, obviously you all know the church's position on evolution is that evolution happened, but did you know that **this is also contrary to scripture** in some sense and **wasn't the church's teaching** for a while,..." (Ben Spackman, Aug. 13, 2018, Gospel tangents interview, Evolution-creation controversy <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i1DkqKm5pZE&pbjreload=10>)

It is indeed sad to see an unsigned New Era article taking precedence over multiple official First Presidency statements.

Why are more and more topics to being classified by members as 'no official position?'

Elder Boyd K. Packer heard the claim about there not being an official Church position on evolution and responded: "Twice the First Presidency has declared the position of the Church on organic evolution. The first, a statement published in 1909 entitled The Origin of Man was signed by Presidents Joseph F. Smith, John R. Winder, and Anthon H. Lund. The other, entitled Mormon View of Evolution, signed by Presidents Heber J. Grant, Anthony W. Ivins, and Charles W. Nibley, was published in 1925. It follows very closely the first statement, indeed quotes directly from it." (Boyd K. Packer, The Law and the Light,

There you have it, a direct rebuttal to the “no official position” claim by an Apostle! He simply had to refer the reader to the repeated statements from the First Presidency. These statements are plain and precious, and only those with an agenda to protect evolution can attempt to twist their meaning away from their clear intended message against evolution.

Remember what Elder Russell M. Nelson said when asked about the Church’s position on Darwinian evolution in the Pew Research interview:

“Different denominations deal differently with questions about life’s origins and development. Conservative denominations tend to have more trouble with **Darwinian evolution. Does the church have an official position on this topic?**

Nelson: We believe that God is our creator and that **he has created other forms of life.** It’s interesting to me, drawing on my 40 years experience as a medical doctor, how similar those species are. We developed open-heart surgery, for example, experimenting on lower animals simply because the same creator made the human being. We owe a lot to those lower species. **But to think that man evolved from one species to another is, to me, incomprehensible.**

Why is that?

Nelson: **Man has always been man. Dogs have always been dogs. Monkeys have always been**

[monkeys. It's just the way genetics works."](https://bycommonconsent.com/2007/05/20/elder-nelson-doesnt-believe-in-evolution/) (May 16 2007, In Focus: Mormonism in Modern America, Pew Forum on Religion & Public Life interview with Russell M Nelson
<https://bycommonconsent.com/2007/05/20/elder-nelson-doesnt-believe-in-evolution/>)



We know popular falsehoods circulating among the saints like evolution, which directly contradict long held teachings of the prophets and scriptures, cannot last long in the Kingdom of God.

Next, let's get more of the partial quote from Elder Holland which the New Era article quoted: "In our

increasingly secular society, it is as **uncommon as it is unfashionable to speak of Adam and Eve or the Garden of Eden or of a “fortunate fall” into mortality.** Nevertheless, the simple truth is that we ***cannot fully comprehend*** the Atonement and Resurrection of Christ and we ***will not adequately appreciate*** the unique purpose of His birth or His death—in other words, there is no way to truly celebrate Christmas *or* Easter—without understanding that there was **an actual Adam and Eve who fell from an actual Eden, with all the consequences that fall carried with it.** I do not know the details of what happened on this planet before that, but I do know **these two were created under the divine hand of God,** that for a time they lived alone in a paradisiacal setting where there was **neither human death nor future family,** and that through a sequence of choices they transgressed a commandment of God which required that they leave their garden setting but which allowed them to have children before facing physical death.” (Jeffrey R. Holland April 2015 Where Justice Love and Mercy Meet [Where Justice, Love, and Mercy Meet \(churchofjesuschrist.org\)](http://www.churchofjesuschrist.org))

In that quote, we learned that Elder Holland is aware of evolutionists who are claiming that there was no Adam, that there was no Eden, that there was no fall, and he rejects these teachings as being in direct contradiction to revealed truths of the gospel. These were actual real events on this earth! We learn about

how there was no death before the fall, which rules out evolution entirely. We get a feeling here that Holland is being careful when speaking against evolution. We are fragile as glass when anything is said that contradicts the almighty scientists at their temple universities. Elder McConkie called the creation, Fall, and atonement the three pillars of the gospel. Have we rejected the first two of these pillars? If we have regressed on these subjects, let us today take back what has been lost. Let the ongoing restoration restore these truths that haven't taken root in our times.

If you don't take these prophetic teachings as official, how about our canonized scriptures - aren't they official? They have plenty to say on the subject. Do we officially believe The Book of Mormon? Do we officially **"liken all scriptures unto us"** (1 Ne. 19:23)? Do we use the Book of Mormon as a guide to warn us against modern-day false teachings as President Benson urged us to do? For example, do we uphold no death before the fall (2 Ne. 2:22) or the six-day creation (Genesis 1)? The list of scriptural doctrines against evolution goes on and on.



Aware of these types of issues, President Ezra Taft Benson gave a similar warning that we would sometimes hear false doctrine from church pulpits and said we are being tested before the Church is cleansed as the wheat grows up with the tares. He said, “Sometimes, from behind the pulpit, in our classrooms, in our council meetings, and in our Church publications, we hear, read, or witness things that **do not square with the truth**. . . . Now, do not let this serve as an excuse for your own wrongdoing. The Lord is **letting the wheat and the tares mature before He fully purges** the Church. He is also testing you to see if you will be misled. The devil is trying to **deceive the very elect**. Let me give you a crucial key to help you avoid being deceived. It is this—learn to keep your eye on the prophet. He is the Lord’s mouthpiece and the only man who can speak for the Lord today. Let his inspired counsel take precedence.

Let his inspired words be a basis for evaluating the counsel of all lesser authorities. Then live close to the Spirit so you may know the truth of all things.” (Teachings of Ezra Taft Benson, p. 134)

8 Issues with the “Church History: Organic Evolution” Web Page

On pages 50-51, the Let’s Talk authors quote from the Church History Organic Evolution page on the church website.

(<https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/study/history/topics/organic-evolution?lang=eng>)

Let’s talk about some issues with this ‘Church History: Organic Evolution’ web page.

1. The Organic Evolution page claims that in 1910, Joseph F. Smith taught that we should not undertake “to say how much of evolution is true, or how much is false.” They didn’t cite any source for this quote, but I will provide it and reveal the **stirring truths which the full quote reveals**, which is quite the contrary of that which was suggested by taking only a little clipping of it. Here it is, from the Juvenile Instructor, and yes this one (unlike the other alleged 1910 quote) does have Joseph F. Smith’s name typed at the end of it (you can view it here:

<https://archive.org/details/juvenileinstruct464geor/page/208/mode/2up>)

“Philosophy and the Church Schools. Some questions have arisen about the attitude of the Church on certain discussions of philosophy in the Church schools. Philosophical discussions as we understand them, are open questions about which men of science are very greatly at variance. As a rule we do not think it advisable to dwell on questions that are in controversy, and especially questions of a certain character, **in the courses of instruction given by our institutions.** In the first place it is the mission of our institutions of learning to qualify our young people for the practical duties of life. It is much to be preferred that they emphasize the industrial and practical side of education. Students are very apt to draw the conclusion that whichever side of a controversial question they adopt is the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth; and **it is very doubtful therefore, whether the great mass of our students have sufficient discriminating judgment to understand very much about some of the advanced theories of philosophy or science.** Some subjects are in themselves, perhaps, perfectly harmless, and any amount of discussion over them would not be injurious to the faith of our young people. We are told, for example, that the theory of gravitation is at best a hypothesis and that such is the atomic theory. These theories help to explain certain things about nature. Whether they are ultimately true can not make much difference to the religious convictions of our young people. **On the other hand there are speculations which touch the origin of life**

and the relationship of God to his children. In a very limited degree that relationship has been defined by revelation, and until we receive more light upon the subject we deem it best to refrain from the discussion of certain philosophical theories which rather destroy than build up the faith of our young people. One thing about this so-called philosophy of religion that is very undesirable, lies in the fact that as soon as we convert our religion into a system of philosophy none but philosophers can understand, appreciate, or enjoy it. God, in his revelation to man has made His word so simple that the humblest of men without especial training, may enjoy great faith, comprehend the teachings of the Gospel, and enjoy undisturbed their religious convictions. For that reason we are averse to the discussion of certain philosophical theories in our religious

instructions. If our Church schools would confine their so-called course of study in biology to that knowledge of the insect world which would help us to eradicate the



pests that threaten the destruction of our crops and our fruit, such instruction would answer much better the aims of the Church school, than **theories which deal with the origin of life.** These theories may have a

fascination for our teachers and they may find interest in the study of them, but they are not properly within the scope of the purpose for which these schools were organized. Some of our teachers are anxious to explain how much of the theory of evolution, in their judgment, is true, and what is false, but that only leaves their students in an unsettled frame of mind. **They are not old enough and learned enough to discriminate, or put proper limitations upon a theory which we believe is more or less a fallacy**. In reaching the conclusion that evolution would be best left out of discussions in our Church schools we are deciding a question of propriety and are not undertaking to say how much of evolution is true, or how much is false. We think that while it is a hypothesis, on both sides of which the most eminent scientific men of the world are arrayed, that it is folly to take up its discussion in our institutions of learning; and we can not see wherein such discussions are likely to promote the faith of our young people. **On the other hand we have abundant evidence that many of those who have adopted in its fullness the theory of evolution have discarded the Bible, or at least refused to accept it as the inspired word of God**. It is not, then, the question of the liberty of any teacher to entertain whatever views he may have upon this hypothesis of evolution, but rather the right of the Church to say that it does not think it profitable or wise to introduce controversies relative to evolution in its schools. Even if it were harmless

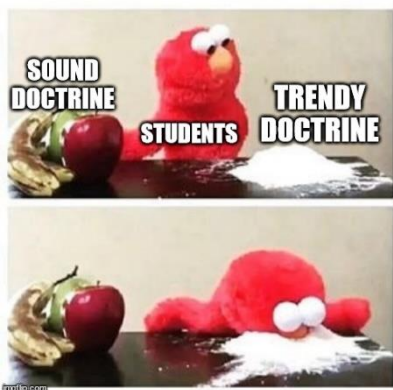
from the standpoint of our faith, we think there are things more important to the daily affairs of life and the practical welfare of our young people. The Church itself has no philosophy about the *modus operandi* employed by the Lord in His creation of the world, and much of the talk therefore, about the philosophy of Mormonism is altogether misleading. God has revealed to us a simple and effectual way of serving Him, and we should regret very much to see the simplicity of those revelations involved in all sorts of philosophical speculations. If we encouraged them it would not be long before we should have a theological scholastic aristocracy in the Church, and we should therefore not enjoy the brotherhood that now is, or should be common to rich and poor, learned and unlearned among the Saints.” (Joseph F. Smith, *The Juvenile Instructor* 46:4 (April 1911) :208-209.)

Notice how the substance of this message isn’t to say, ‘we don’t know if evolution is true,’ rather the substance of the message is to say, **‘we don’t like evolution, and bringing it up in church schools usually causes problems.’** He points out how **most who fully adopt evolution stop believing in the Bible.** Notice how he did say that **evolution is one of those parts of science that does in fact have to do with our spiritual wellbeing!** While it likely isn’t wise to bring this subject up all the time in church classes, it is within the ability and duty of every saint to be informed on this matter and preach the truths on

this subject in their homes and to those who are interested.

2. The Organic Evolution page refers to the New Era magazine's nameless statement, which (as I demonstrate in the "Issues with the 'No Official Church Position on Evolution' Claim" section of this book) isn't an official stance of the church, and actually links to the Origin of Man First Presidency statement, which is the official position of the church, and is clearly against evolution.

Remember President Benson's warning: **"Sometimes, from behind the pulpit, in our classrooms, in our council meetings, and in our Church publications, we hear, read, or witness things that do not square with the truth."** (Teachings of Ezra Taft Benson, p. 134)



3. The Organic Evolution page claims that the 1909 1st Presidency statement made an official statement on the origin of man, but not on evolution. Those are the same thing - the whole point of evolution is to explain the origin of man, and the whole point of the 1909 statement was to take a stand against evolution! See my quotation and analysis of the 1909 statement for a closer look at the obvious implications of that statement.

4. The Organic Evolution page refers to the 1925 1st Presidency statement on evolution using the word ‘evolution’ in a positive light when it refers to ‘evolving into a god.’ When I read this argument, I was frankly aghast. The word evolution in this statement is clearly talking about going forward into godhood, not about coming from slime to get to where we are now. The word evolving has several meanings, and just because it was used to suggest progression into godhood doesn’t mean it can be subverted to indicate the authenticity and acceptability of organic evolution! I treated this statement in more detail in the ‘First Presidency Statement’ section of this book previously.

5. The Organic Evolution page speaks of Talmage and Widstoe who “regarded scientific discovery of truth as evidence of God’s use of natural laws,” then refers to Joseph Fielding Smith saying he “believed that the Biblical account of the Creation did not allow for the

long spans required for species to multiply through evolution.” This description makes it sound like Fielding was anti-science, but anyone who has read his book *Man: His Origin & Destiny* knows better. Fielding was well versed in science, adored inspired scientists, and recognized just as well as anyone that science gives evidence of God’s laws.

6. The Organic Evolution page sites Heber J. Grant’s teaching to “[leave Geology, Biology, Archaeology and Anthropology, no one of which has to do with the salvation of the souls of mankind, to scientific research, while we magnify our calling in the realm of the Church.](#)” This wasn’t published to church members and isn’t in alignment with related teachings demonstrating evolutionary theory’s implications. It was made regarding B.H. Roberts’ theory about people living on earth before the fall of Adam. More is said about this quote elsewhere in this book, demonstrating that this quote refers to not speculating about pre-Adamites.

7. The Organic Evolution page refers to the Encyclopedia of Mormonism entry on evolution (<https://eom.byu.edu/index.php/Evolution>), which states, “The scriptures tell why man was created, but they do not tell how.” It also attempts to explain erroneously why the private 1931 First Presidency statement was given.

This is misleading on several levels. Gary Shapiro's essay on this encyclopedia entry demonstrates many of these issues (read it here:

<http://ndbf.blogspot.com/2005/06/encyclopedia-of-mormonismevolution.html>).

First, the encyclopedia was written by William E. Evenson, it isn't an official church publication, and isn't anything near an official 1st Presidency statement declaring the church's position.

Next, to explain the private 1931 statement of leaving science to the scientists, the Encyclopedia entry says, "In 1931, when there was intense discussion on the issue of organic evolution." What was this about? Actually, this was about B.H. Roberts' book "The Truth The Way The Life," and the controversial point was not about organic evolution, Roberts didn't espouse such a view, but the controversial thing was that Roberts claimed that there was a creation of animals and beings placed on Earth before Adam, which died in a cataclysmic event. The Brethren didn't want this message going around because it doesn't match scripture and would confuse people, and this was the controversy. There was no disagreement on the issue of organic evolution. Roberts was not an evolutionist, and his book didn't promote evolution. As evidenced by quotations in this volume, he believed that man did not evolve from a common lower lifeform. There was no disagreement between Roberts and the brethren regarding evolution.

Richard Sherlock, professor of philosophy at USU, says the theory of Roberts' book "was clearly **not** a theory of evolution [because] it did **not** deal at all with

the central thesis of evolution—the mutability of species and descent with modification.... He [Roberts] was **unwilling** to attempt a reconciliation grounded in a firm commitment to evolution." (*The Search For Harmony*, pp. 76-77)

The controversy was about whether death occurred before Adam, which point is contrary to scripture. Death before the fall certainly could be related to evolution. The 1st Presidency in 1909 had already declared that Adam was first man, which makes death before Adam impossible. The doctrine of the fall, that all life, plant animal and human, only experienced death and mortality (as opposed to immortality) after the fall of Adam. Later in this book I will relate several teachings of the prophet demonstrating this scriptural doctrine. In short. **2 Ne. 2:22** says that ALL things would remain in the state they were created in were it not for the Fall of Adam.



8. In general, the whole Organic Evolution page reads like a progressive revisionist essay, dodging and downplaying our true history regarding organic evolution left and right. It said little to nothing about the wealth of knowledge that has been revealed in this dispensation about the nature of the Earth and the creation through scriptures, nor did it bring up anything from the plethora of modern prophetic teachings about

the same.



Issues with The BYU Evolution Packet, & Dogma

There were heavy battles between evolutionists and church presidents about what should be taught at BYU, the Church's school, whose professors and students are heavily subsidized by tithing dollars. Finally, they decided to pull out all religious influence in the teaching of science at BYU, and 'leave science to the scientists.' Since then, secular professors have had a hay day at BYU, teaching all the dogmatic evolution they want. Henry B Eyring Jr. (son of the evolutionist Eyring Sr.) said that "the contention was the problem." Contention was a problem, to be sure, but the source of the contention was people who rejected church

doctrine, and sadly, we decided to resolve the contention by letting the evolutionists do whatever they wanted.

To teach evolution at BYU now, all you must do is give your students a five-page packet that says, “Adam was the first man,” which the professors ignore or make some contradictory statement about to appease the audience, then proceed to teach that man came from monkeys. There’s a whole display of human evolution from monkeys at the BYU Bean Science Museum, erected in March 2019, and this human evolution display is a permanent installment.



(Images: The Bean Science Museum at BYU)

(Here is a link to the BYU evolution packet:

<https://biology.byu.edu/00000172-29e6-d079-ab7e-69efe5890000/byu-evolution-packet>)

The BYU evolution packet claims that “there has never been a formal declaration from the First Presidency addressing the general matter of organic evolution as a process for development of biological species,” yet the whole point of the First Presidency statement of 1909 (which was echoed in 1925) was to make formal

declarations on the subject. The BYU packet also refers to the (erroneous) Encyclopedia of Mormonism entry on evolution, which we discussed earlier.

How do we know the 1909 statement about human origins was about evolution? You can't separate evolution from its major component of human evolution. If you believe the origin of man was from God, you have no business believing in man coming from the evolution of animals. When you know man didn't come from evolution, you can reason that animals didn't either, as the whole theory was meant to explain the origin of man. Don't hold on to a fundamentally wrong theory. We all know of the bird's beak changing size to accommodate surroundings, but the real point of evolutionary theory is to teach that all life on earth occurred by an accident to begin with, and then incrementally transformed into the complex life forms (including humans) we see today. None of this is in keeping with the scriptures and doctrines of the Church.

Holding on to evolutionary theory when we know it's not how God made man is like when forger Mark Hoffman was caught setting off bombs to try and keep his crimes in forgery covered up, and even after the bombs, many secular people in the church said something to the effect of, 'ok, so Hoffman is a bad person and killed people. And he admitted to forging some documents. But that doesn't mean ALL his

documents were forgeries! Those are important documents!’ No, they aren’t important! When you find out that the guy is an abomination, why keep relying on him for information? It’s the same with evolution. We know this isn’t how mankind originated and the social corruption it has caused, so why are we still clinging to this stuff?

Sadly, we decided to allow the adversary’s deceptions into our institutes of higher learning and much of the whole church has become secular as a result. The conversation is one-sided, and there is little to no hope for the rising generation, who are no longer being taught creation truths at home, church, or the great BYU. Historically the Church was who presented conservative truths while people encountered radical theories of men elsewhere. BYU, as a Church-owned school, should be very different than other schools. As President Dallin H. Oaks’ 2024 correspondence with my friend said, BYU should **only make students aware of the ‘theories of men,’ not advocate them.**

President Oaks has recently admonished us to repeatedly teach basic church doctrines. Surely, doctrines about Creation, Fall, and Atonement and how these core doctrines contradict men's theories are some of the plain and precious truths that we should be focusing on! It’s hard to have a good conversation about Jesus's role without correctly addressing the

absolute power of God manifest in the Creation and the neediness of man manifest in the Fall.

Spencer W. Kimball was firmly against evolution and taught that these truths will not change despite what hordes of learned people claim on the matter. He said, “The Gods organized the earth of materials at hand, over which they had control and power. This truth is absolute. **A million educated folk might speculate and determine in their minds that the earth came into being by chance.** The truth remains. The earth was made by the Gods [and] opinions do not change that. The Gods organized and **gave life to man and placed him on the earth.** This is absolute. It cannot be disproved. **A million brilliant minds might conjecture otherwise, but it is still true.**” (Spencer W. Kimball, “Absolute Truth”, *Ensign*, September 1978, p. 3). Let the evolutionists twist and turn about this, let them say Kimball wasn’t referring to Darwinian evolution, let them claim that evolution can work within the confines of God as Creator, but let those with common sense see Kimball’s words for what they plainly mean and as he clearly intended them, as part of the consistent chorus of latter-day prophets against one of the most pernicious popular movements of our time!

Issues with The 1931 Evolution Statement on ‘Leaving it All to Scientists’

On page 50 the Let’s Talk about Science & Religion authors cite Heber J Grant in saying that Church leaders should leave science alone since it doesn’t have to do with our salvation. Here is the quote: “[Leave Geology, Biology, Archaeology, and Anthropology, no one of which has to do with the salvation of the souls of mankind, to scientific research, while we magnify our calling in the realm of the Church. Upon one thing we should all be able to agree, namely, that Presidents Joseph F. Smith, John R. Winder, and Anthon H. Lund were right when they said: "Adam is the primal parent of our race." \(First Presidency Minutes, Apr. 7, 1931\) \(Others site it as First Presidency Memorandum to General Authorities April 1931\).](#)

The source for this quote indicates that it was never presented to the members of the Church as official Church doctrine. The saints are not to be expected to accept a private discussion, even a First Presidency discussion, as the Church's position. Although some parts of the 1931 memo have been published privately, neither the memo nor any excerpt from it has yet been published by the Church.

The situation that brought about this quote was B.H. Roberts' theory is that there were people on Earth before the fall of Adam. The 1931 controversy and resulting private statement of Grant was not from an argument about whether organic evolution was on the table, as organic evolution never was a viable option.

Next, let's ask, how does this square with the official 1st Presidency statement Grant released, which echoed the 1909 official Church position that mankind did not evolve from lower species but was instead the “[literal offspring of deity?](#)” Clearly, this 1909 statement is at odds with the evolutionary teaching that man evolved from lower lifeforms through natural selection and survival of the fittest. The 1931 statement must be understood in that context, that this sentiment of **science not applying to the welfare of our souls does not apply when it comes to evolution**, as we cited above in Joseph F. Smith's teaching, because evolution pertains to **the origins of man, an inherently religious subject**. Can we ignore the moral theological implications clearly present in evolutionary teaching? ALL things pertain to the souls of mankind, especially those theories of men which have so much to do with the eternal soul and origins of man. When we see the massive wave of faith crisis evolution is causing, can we persist in claiming that science is an abstract amoral study?

On a certain level we can indeed leave science to scientists, but whatever happened to bringing all truth into one great whole? We are commanded in scripture to bring all things together in one in Christ. Are we scaling back to only the few topics the secular world will allow us to know God's will about? Whatever happened to all truth belonging to Mormonism (the restoration) as Joseph, Brigham, and their successors taught? Can we teach our doctrine AND mainstream science which directly contradicts it at the same time? Instead, we MUST use the facts of religion to reject the pseudo-scientific theories of men.

If science hadn't become so corrupted, we wouldn't be so worried about it, but the Devil has corrupted science. We cannot let the lies in the textbooks and lectures go unchallenged. It is because of our testimonies of the truth that we can easily detect the errors of these popular theories. Latter-day Saints not only accept truth wherever it is found, but they also fight against falsehood wherever it is found. You can't preach truth without simultaneously rebuking falsehood.



Will You Believe Plain Truth, Be Compelled, or Even Mock Believers on The Evolution Question?

Earlier in this book, in the section on BYU's evolution teaching, we became acquainted with a chorus of **voices in the church calling to set aside the scriptures and trust the experts**. An *abbreviated overview* of some of their claims is important to mention this part of the book is as follows:

1. Spackman: It's very clear that apostles, prophets and scriptures reject evolution
2. Spackman: Science Falsely So Called: How Latter-Day Saints Came To Misread Scripture As Science
3. Spackman: The church's position on evolution is that evolution happened, but did you know that this is also contrary to scripture in some sense and wasn't the

church's teaching for a while (Spackman)

4. Spackman: We're seeing in the church today is professionalization. ... it took a while for us to have professional historians, but now we're seeing the fruits of that with the Joseph Smith Papers Project, with the Gospel Topics essays. (Spackman)

5. Perego: Look I think Genesis is a story it's not science but it's a story

6. Wootton: So do you allow your science department to teach evolution? I replied that if any professor in our biological science department did not teach the theory of evolution, I would seriously question his competence.

7. Wootton: What I would do if I were asked [by higher Church leadership] to 'shut down' our biology professor on evolution. I said I would answer honestly, but not meaning to presume any special courage, because I didn't think it would come up. "I wouldn't do it."



Elder Dallin H. Oaks **warned of the consequences of leaving things to scholars.** He said, “I have seen some persons attempt to understand or undertake to criticize the gospel or the Church by the method of reason alone, **unaccompanied by the use or recognition of revelation.** When reason is adopted as the only—or even the principal—method of judging the gospel, the outcome is predetermined. One cannot find God or understand His doctrines and ordinances by closing the door on the means He has prescribed for receiving the truths of his gospel. **That is why gospel truths have been corrupted and gospel ordinances have been lost when left to the interpretation and sponsorship of scholars who lack the authority and reject the revelations of God.**” (Elder Dallin H. Oaks *Alternate Voices*, April 1989)

As Elder Oaks predicted, the rule of scholars is having

negative consequences. This shift toward professionalism Spackman speaks of may not be going the way we had hoped. On one of John Dehlin's "Mormon Stories" whose themes are to air grievances against the church, in an episode with Matt Harris, it was said, that among the most frequent answers from faith crisis workshop attendees to the question "what caused your crisis of faith?" are Richard Bushman's Rough Stone Rolling and the Gospel Topics essays. (The LDS Gospel Topics Essays - A History by Dr. Matt Harris - Mormon Stories 1365, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ro-gUmOD4wk&t=6968s>) Note: The Gospel Topics Essays are a collection of explanations of Church History related topics, emphasizing the interpretations of scholars in the church (found here: <https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/study/manual/gospel-topics-essays?lang=eng>).

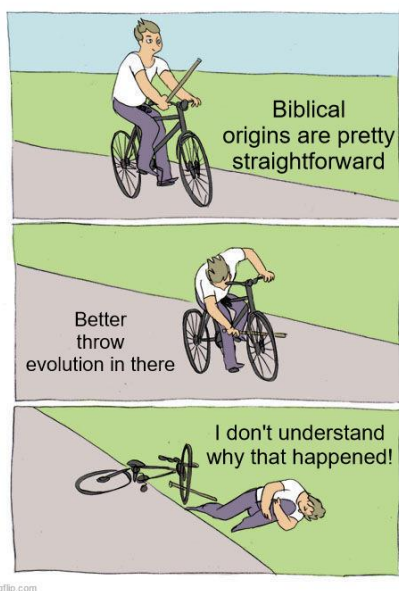


Ezra Taft Benson dealt with revisionist historians in his own day. He said, “Historians and educational writers ... classified as “revisionists.” Their purpose has been and is to create a “new history.” **By their own admission, they are more influenced by their own training and other humanistic and scientific disciplines than any religious conviction.** This detachment provides them, they say, with an objectivity that the older historians did not have. Many of the older historians, I should point out, were defenders of the [Joseph] patriots and [his] their noble

efforts. Feeling no obligation to perpetuate the ideals of the founding fathers, some of the so-called “new historians” have recast a new body of beliefs for their secular faith. Their efforts, in some cases, have resulted in a **new interpretation** of our nation’s [church’s] history. ... I know the philosophy behind this practice—“to tell it as it is.” All too often those who subscribe to this philosophy are not hampered by too many facts. When will we awaken to the fact that the defamation of our dead heroes only serves to undermine faith in the principles for which they stood, and the institutions which they established? Some have termed this practice as “historical realism” or moderately call it “debunking.” **I call it slander and defamation. I repeat, those who are guilty of it in their writing or teaching will answer to a higher tribunal.** ... This humanistic emphasis on history is not confined only to secular history; there have been and continue to be attempts made to bring this philosophy into our own Church history. Again the emphasis is to underplay revelation and God’s intervention in significant events and to inordinately humanize the prophets of God so that their human frailties become more apparent than their spiritual qualities. It is a state of mind and spirit characterized by one history buff, who asked: “Do you believe the Church has arrived at a sufficient state of maturity where we can begin to tell our *real* story?” Implied in that question is the accusation that the Church has not been telling the truth. Unfortunately, too many of those

who have been intellectually gifted become so imbued with criticism that they become disaffected spiritually. Some of these have attempted to reinterpret Joseph Smith and his revelations; they offer what they call a **psychological interpretation** of his motives and actions. This interpretation suggests that whether or not Joseph Smith actually saw God, the Father, and His Son, Jesus Christ, or other visions is really unimportant. What matters is that he *thought* he did. To those who have **not** sought after or received a testimony of Joseph Smith's divine calling, he will ever remain what one called "the enigma from Palmyra." (Elder Ezra Taft Benson, March 28, 1977, God's Hand in the Nation's History, BYU Speeches, <https://speeches.byu.edu/talks/ezra-taft-benson/gods-hand-nations-history/>)

Note that when we talk about a revision of our Churches history, that includes revisions about our stance teachings and history on organic evolution!



Are Christians willing to be mocked for their stance against worldly theories? Jesus taught doubting Thomas: blessed are those who see and believe, but even more blessed are those who believe without seeing (John 20:29). Will you wait for science to vindicate the prophets, or will you boldly stand with them today, when the scientific community has successfully buried most research which disproves evolution? The theory of evolution is on its way out - now is the time to stand for the right without being compelled.

President Ezra Taft Benson called for standing with the prophets rather than the learned. He said, “Sometimes

there are those who feel their earthly knowledge on a certain subject is superior to the heavenly knowledge which God gives to His Prophet on the same subject. **They feel the prophet must have the same earthly credentials or training which they have had before they will accept anything the prophet has to say that might contradict their earthly schooling.** How much earthly schooling did Joseph Smith have? ... We encourage earthly knowledge in many areas, but remember, if there is ever a conflict between earthly knowledge and the words of the prophet, **you stand with the prophet**, and you'll be blessed and **time** will vindicate you." (Ezra Taft Benson, Fourteen Fundamentals in Following the Prophet, <https://speeches.byu.edu/talks/ezra-taft-benson/fourteen-fundamentals-following-prophet/>)

Elsewhere, Benson taught that the greatest injuries to the Church come from within. He initially quotes President McKay they expounds. Here is the quote: "The Church," says President McKay, "is little, if at all, injured by persecution and calumnies from ignorant, misinformed, or malicious enemies." (The Instructor, February 1956, p. 33.) **It is from within the Church that the greatest hindrance comes.** And so, it seems, it has been. Now the question arises, will we stick with the kingdom and **can we avoid being deceived?** Certainly this is an important question, for the Lord has said that in the last days the devil will "rage in the hearts of . . . men," (2 Nephi 28:20) and if it were

possible he shall "deceive the very elect." (Joseph Smith 1:5-37.) (Ezra Taft Benson, Be Not Deceived, Oct. 1963)

In that address, Benson laid out 3 steps for not being deceived.

1. What do the standard works have to say about it?
2. What do the latter-day Presidents of the Church say about the subject—particularly the living President?
3. The third and final test is the Holy Ghost—the test of the Spirit. (Ezra Taft Benson, Be Not Deceived, Oct. 1963)

Elder Neal A. Maxwell taught of the supremacy of revelation compared to worldly learning. He said, “When **Moses** was schooled by the Egyptians, what he learned there did **not** compare in eternal significance to what he learned from God’s revelations, **things he said he “never had supposed”** (Acts 7:22; Moses 1:10–33).” (The Inexhaustible Gospel, August 18, 1992 • BYU Devotional, <https://speeches.byu.edu/talks/neal-a-maxwell/inexhaustible-gospel/>)

Jacob warns against rejecting plain truth for sophisticated godless theories: “**But behold, the Jews were a stiffnecked people; and they despised the words of plainness, and killed the prophets, and sought for things that they could not understand. Wherefore, because of their blindness, which blindness came by looking beyond the mark, they must needs**

fall; for God hath taken away his plainness from them, and delivered unto them many things which they cannot understand, because they desired it. And because they desired it God hath done it, that they may stumble.” (Jacob 4:14)

In today’s world, killing the prophets (as referred to in Jacob 4:14) can be doing things which undermine the teachings of the prophets, causing people to discount and disbelieve them. There are more effective ways to silence people than bloodshed.

President Packer, referring to progressive attacks on church doctrine, warned that not all the persecution against the saints comes from outside of the church. He said, “Atheists and agnostics make nonbelief their religion and today organize in unprecedented ways to attack faith and belief. They are now organized, and they pursue political power. You will be hearing much about them and from them. Much of their attack is indirect in mocking the faithful, in mocking religion. The types of Sherem, Nehor, and Korihor live among us today (see Jacob 7:1–21; Alma 1:1–15; Alma 30:6–60). Their arguments are not so different from those in the Book of Mormon. You who are young will see many things that will try your courage and test your faith. **All of the mocking does not come from outside of the Church.** Let me say that again: All of the mocking does not come from outside of the Church. Be careful that you do not fall into the category of

mocking.” (President Boyd K Packer, Jan. 16 2007 [Lehi's Dream and You - Boyd K. Packer - BYU Speeches](#)))

Elder Benson taught that the Church is not divided, there's just people who aren't in harmony with it, and yes, they write in our Church publications. Benson said, Sometimes we hear someone refer to a division in the Church. In reality, **the Church is not divided**. It simply means that there are some who, for the time being at least, are members of the Church but not in harmony with it. These people have a **temporary** membership and influence in the Church; but unless they repent, they will be missing when the final membership records are recorded. It is well that our people understand this principle, so they will not be misled by those apostates **within the Church** who have not yet repented or been cut off. But there is a cleansing coming. The Lord says that his vengeance shall be poured out "upon the inhabitants of the earth . . . And upon my house shall it begin, and from my house shall it go forth, saith the Lord; First among those among you, saith the Lord, who have professed to know my name and have not known me” (D&C 112:24-26). I look forward to that cleansing; **its need within the Church is becoming increasingly apparent. Not only are there apostates within our midst, but there are also apostate doctrines that are sometimes taught in our classes and from our pulpits and that appear in our publications**. And

these apostate precepts of men cause our people to stumble. As the Book of Mormon, speaking of our day, states: ". . . they have all gone astray save it a few, who are the humble followers of Christ; nevertheless, they are led, that in many instances they do err because they are taught by the precepts of men" (2 Ne. 28: 14). The world worships the learning of man. They trust in the arm of flesh. To them, men's reasoning is greater than God's revelations. The precepts of man have gone so far in subverting our educational system that in many cases a higher degree today, in the so-called social sciences, can be tantamount to a major investment in error. Very few men build firmly enough on the rock of revelation to go through this kind of an indoctrination and come out untainted.

Unfortunately, of those who succumb, some use their higher degree to get teaching positions even in our Church educational system, where they spread the falsehoods they have been taught. President Joseph F. Smith was right when he said that false educational ideas would be one of the three threats to the Church within (Gospel Doctrine, pp. 312-13)." (Ezra Taft Benson, To The Humble Followers of Christ, April 1969,

<http://www.gapages.com/divided.htm>)

In the same address, Benson equates Jesus' appointing with Judas the traitor with elements existing in the latter-day church. He said, "The Lord strengthened the faith of the early apostles by pointing out Judas as a

traitor, even before this apostle had completed his iniquitous work (John 13:21-30). So also **in our day** the Lord has told us of the **tares within the wheat** that will **eventually be hewn** down when they are fully ripe.” (Ezra Taft Benson, To The Humble Followers of Christ, April 1969, <http://www.gapages.com/divided.htm>)

Ezra Taft Benson quoted President Kimball in teaching that many in the church reject the current prophet and try to get the prophet to not speak on evolution etc. He said, “It is the living Prophet who really upsets the world. **“Even in the Church”**, said President Kimball, “many are prone to garnish the sepulchers of yesterday’s prophets **and mentally stone the living ones.**” Why? Because the living prophet gets at what we need to know now, and the world prefers that prophets either be dead or mind their own business. Some so-called experts of political science want the prophet to keep still on politics. **Some would-be authorities on evolution want the prophet to keep still on evolution.** And so the list goes on.” (Elder Ezra Taft Benson, The 14 Fundamentals of Following the Prophet; <https://speeches.byu.edu/talks/ezra-taft-benson/fourteen-fundamentals-following-prophet/>)

Elder Neal A. Maxwell also warned of these wolves among the flock. He said, “True, the enemies and the critics of the Lord’s work will not relent; they only regroup. **Even among the flock**, here and there and from time to time, are a few wolves, wearing various

styles of sheep's clothing—ironically, just before the shearing season! A few defectors and “high-minded” traitors (2 Tim. 3:4) even go directly to the “great and spacious building” to hire on (1 Ne. 8:26). Their recruits are celebrated and feted until—like their predecessors—they have faded into the dark swamps of history.” (“For I Will Lead You Along” By Elder Neal A. Maxwell, Apr. 1988, <https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/study/general-conference/1988/04/for-i-will-lead-you-along?lang=eng>)

Elder Maxwell further encourages us to stay on the right course, knowing that these worldly philosophers will be overturned. He said, “We surely have been warned and forewarned about **our time**, a period in which the compression of challenges may make a year seem like a decade. Members **will be** cleverly mocked and scorned by those in the “**great and spacious building**,” representing the pride of the world (1 Ne. 8:26, 1 Ne. 11:36). No matter, for ere long, **He** who was raised on the third day will raze that spacious but third-class hotel!” (Elder Neal A. Maxwell, “Overcome ... Even As I Also Overcame” Apr. 1987)

In case we had any doubt about who was in that great and spacious building, President Monson specifically identified it as those who reject scripture. He said, “**The great and spacious building** in Lehi's vision represents those in the world who mock God's word and who ridicule those who **embrace** it and who **love**

the Savior and **live** the commandments.” (President Thomas S. Monson, *May You Have Courage*, April, 2009)

In our rejection of worldly philosophers, Church leaders can stand as a guide for taking the right direction. Elder Ezra Taft Benson taught, “If we want to know how well we stand with the Lord, then let us ask ourselves how well we stand with His mortal captain. **How closely do our lives harmonize with the words of the Lord’s anointed** — the living Prophet, the President of the Church, and with the Quorum of the First Presidency?” (Elder Ezra Taft Benson, *The 14 Fundamentals of Following the Prophet*, <https://speeches.byu.edu/talks/ezra-taft-benson/fourteen-fundamentals-following-prophet/>)

FIGHT THE GOOD FIGHT

To those who are allergic to taking a stand on matters like this, remember that just this year Elder Ronald A. Rasband urged the saints to be **proactive** in **defending prophetic teachings**. He said, referring to the prophet, **"We do not sit quietly by but actively defend him."** (October 2024 General Conference)

Church founder and dispensation head Joseph Smith was not shy of correcting the learned. He said, “I wish to correct an error among men that profess to be learned, liberal and wise; and I do it the more cheerfully because I hope **sober-thinking** and **sound-**

reasoning people will sooner listen to the voice of truth than be led astray by the vain pretensions of the self-wise.” (<https://www.josephsmithpapers.org/paper-summary/history-of-joseph-smith/67>)



A VALIENT EXAMPLE

One profound example of being learned and yet holding fast to the teachings of the prophets against evolution is seen in Elder Milton R. Hunter, a member of the First Council of Seventy. In an address “Archaeology and the Book of Mormon” to BYU students he related the following:

“I believe in scholarship; I believe in going to school. I used to tell my students at Logan and I have also told a number of audiences similar to the one to which I am speaking, "It won't hurt you to go to school, and you can take all the classes you want and take all the

sciences you want, **if you have sense enough to believe the truth and not believe that which isn't true**, because the professors will give you both kinds of teachings."

Then I have had my students ask, "**Well, how can you tell which is true?**" My reply has been, "**When any teaching is contrary to the teachings of the Book of Mormon, then just decide that teaching is not true. When the facts presented are contrary to the teachings of Christ or those of the Prophet Joseph Smith, or of the Doctrine and Covenants, or of the Pearl of Great Price, be assured that those teachings are not true.** If you hold to that premise, you will keep your faith and your scholarship won't hurt you."

"We do have people in the church who have gone on for higher education. **They** think they are intellectuals; in fact, **they** even claim to be such. **They** admire and nearly worship their worldly scholarship, having rejected many of the doctrines and teachings of the Church. **They** think what **they** have learned in the universities is superior to **what God has revealed to His prophets**. Of course, **they** are off on **the wrong premise**. Don't any of you as college students get off on **the wrong premise** that way. Go on to school and get your education, but let wisdom guide you while doing so."

“I went far enough to get a Ph.D., a doctor's degree, and **I have been reprimanded by some people who have doctor's degrees.** They have said to me: "Now, you studied **evolution** and took the same subjects as we did and then you went ahead and wrote *The Gospel through the Ages*: and I don't see how you did it when you know that you learned that we **evolved** from lower forms of life."

Well, I said, "I learned such material from the professors, but I didn't believe it." I didn't have to believe all the professors told me. In fact, I told one good man, "The only difference between you and me was that you believed all the professors told you; and when there was a difference in opinion, **I believed what the prophets** said."

He said, "if **Joseph Smith** said something and the smartest man in the world said something different, which would you believe?" I said, "**Joseph Smith.**"

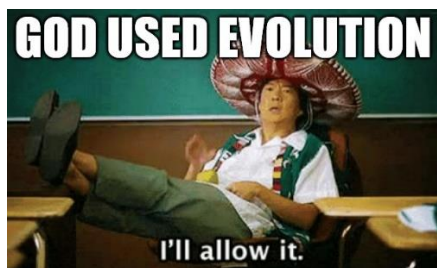
"Well, if 100 agreed against **the Prophet?**" I replied, "A thousand, a million, I would still believe **Joseph Smith.**"

If somebody says something and it is based on a false premise and it is repeated all over the world, it doesn't make it true. It is still false.

That holds very true for archaeology and **the Book of Mormon.** Practically everything that is of an

archaeological nature in **the Book of Mormon**,
**scholars have taught contrary to the truth. Most the
things they still teach are contrary to the truth."**

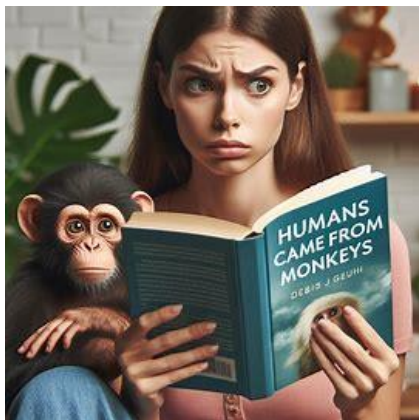
(*Elder Milton R. Hunter*, Member of the First Council
of Seventy, *Archaeology and the Book of Mormon*,
Address given to the BYU summer student body, July
19, 1966)



imgflip.com

Part 2: Evolution's Corrupting Influence On Testimony

Spiritual Evidence that God Didn't Use Evolution



Color code of text in this book:

Red – Scriptures.

Blue – Latter-day Prophets

Green – Scientists.

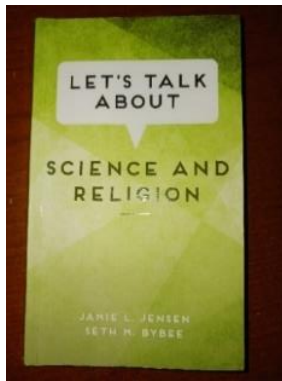
Brown – Quotes from the BYU evolutionist book

“Let’s Talk about Science & Religion” (LTSR) by

Jamie Jensen & Seth Bybee.

In this series of responding to evolutionists within the church, we will frequently refer to the 2023 book, titled “Let’s Talk about Science and Religion,” which

showcases their claims and is currently available for sale at Deseret Book.



The theme of Jamie L. Jensen and Seth M. Bybee's book, published at Deseret Book Co. in 2023, is that we need to accept the fact of evolution and adjust our religious beliefs accordingly. The back cover fold reveals that "[Jamie] is also a member of the **Broader Social Impacts Committee for the Human Origins Initiative at the Smithsonian, joining other religious scientists to help the American public feel more comfortable with evolution.**"

Abraham Implies Evolution?

On page 52 the pro-evolution book Let's Talk about

Science & Religion cites Abraham 4:21 as evidence that God could have used evolution.

Read it and see for yourself: **“21 And the Gods prepared the waters that they might bring forth great whales, and every living creature that moveth, which the waters were to bring forth abundantly after their kind; and every winged fowl after their kind. And the Gods saw that they would be obeyed, and that their plan was good.”**

That sure doesn't sound like evolution to me. Evolution violates the principle of animals only reproducing after their kind. It ignores known genetic limits between species. Evolutionists have trained their minds to see everything through an evolution lens, rather than the plain lens of scripture. Let's look at the next verses for more context: **“22 And the Gods said: We will bless them, and cause them to be fruitful and multiply, and fill the waters in the seas or great waters; and cause the fowl to multiply in the earth. 23 And it came to pass that it was from evening until morning that they called night; and it came to pass that it was from morning until evening that they called day; and it was the fifth time.”**

Evolutionists citing Abraham for their case have made a grave mistake!

Here we saw an example of what God calls the “times” (days) of creation: the evening till the morning was the

length of the “time,” which sounds very much like a single calendar day, be that days as we now know them or days according to Kolob (1:1000), the account is still extremely different from the millions and billions of years of evolutionary theory.

On an evolutionary scale, if a 7-day creation of 24-hour periods were about 8 inches, then a 7-day creation of 1000-year periods would be about a foot, and the billions of years of evolution would be about 100 miles long. This shows that the 24-hour vs 1000-year days of creation isn’t the point; the point is that either way, it’s dramatically shorter than what evolution claims (and couldn’t possibly allow for a universal common ancestor from which everything evolved).



Scripture Got Creation Order Wrong?

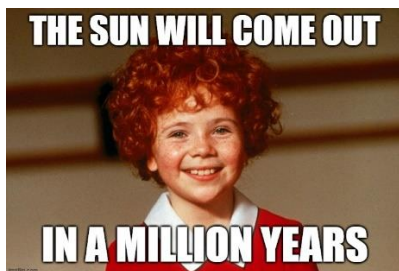
On page 57 LTSR authors cast doubt on the “day-age creationism” model by claiming that “**potential issues of compatibility [with evolution] only arise if one stipulates that the creative periods had to occur in the exact order described...**” Described where? In Genesis Moses Abraham and the temple. In plain English, that means, **‘evolution works great so long as you totally disregard everything the scriptures and the restoration have said about how the creation happened.’** Does this mean we can’t really accept the scriptural accounts of creation because they give the completely wrong order of events in which things were created? Perhaps scriptures should be demoted from truth to meaningful stories? Why would God show up to prophets and tell them the order of how He created completely backwards? What a joke!

All the orders of events presented in the scriptures for the creation are almost completely the opposite of the proposed order of creations in evolution theory. The Devil must be laughing about how he has convinced almost everyone that creation happened in exactly the opposite order of the scripture. The world of science laughs at the Bible because it is the opposite of their theory. At some point, we really must pick a side.

Evolution is the opposite of the bible!

BIBLE:	EVOLUTION:
Earth before sun & stars.	Sun & stars before Earth.
Oceans before land.	Land before ocean
Light before sun.	Sun before light.
Land plants before marine life.	Marine life before plants.
Fruit trees before fish.	Fish before fruit trees.
Fish before insects.	Insects before fish.
Plants before sun.	Sun before plants.
Birds before reptiles.	Reptiles before birds.
Man brought death into the world.	Death brought man into the world.
God made man.	Man made God.

(Genesis 1)



**SUN NOT ON DAY 4 OF CREATION AS
SCRIPTURE SAYS?**



Here is a terrific case in point demonstrating their bias against scripture when it contradicts mainstream science theories.

On page 20 LTSR points out that the scriptural account gives us plants before the sun. In their narrow views, they see no possibility of this. There are many ways this could work. They assume that the source of light for these plants had to be the sun. This is a strange hill for them to die on because the scripture says in the future, the sun won't be the earth's light source.

Take a look at Revelation 22:5: **“And there shall be no night there; and they need no candle, neither light of the sun; for the Lord God giveth them light: and they shall reign for ever and ever.”**

So, it shouldn't be hard to understand that the earth had a different light source in its beginning.

Even my kids know this. In science class, they grew plants without sunlight using an alternative source of light. When I talked to my kids about scientists rejecting this scripture due to their limited

understanding, they said, “Grown-ups are silly. They make things complicated. Why don’t they just believe God?” That is a good question indeed. A great glory of the gospel is that truth doesn’t demand we leave behind childlike faith; it requires it.

There are some other possibilities for the sun being on day four. If it turns out that the sun existed before Earth and somehow only became visible on day 4, so be it. But I point out the very plausible possibility of the sun being made later, or the earth being brought to its current location on day four, etc., to show we don’t need to dismiss scripture when it doesn’t align with science theories.



GOD KNOWS BEST

We are under covenant to accept canonized scripture as God's revealed word and will. It is no light matter to openly advocate messages that directly contradict God's word. There is no need to guess and speculate about the truth when it is plainly revealed.

When Joseph Fielding Smith encountered people who refused to take the scriptures literally due to some supposed scientific issue, he responded as follows: "[One] took me to task for my remarks and said: "Why, do you not know that if the earth slowed up for part of a day that it would create such a terrific wind that everything on the face of the earth would be swept off?" I looked at him and with a smile said: "My goodness! Is it not too bad that the Lord would not know this?" The conversation ended. Then I thought of the scripture where it is written that before the great day of the coming of the Lord the earth would "reel to and fro as a drunkard," (Isa. 29:20; D&C 45:48, 49:23) and what then, would be the nature of the wind." (Joseph Fielding Smith, *Man: His Origin & Destiny*, Introduction)



Why are evolutionists in the church so quick to dismiss the word of God in favor of their pet theories? Why do evolutionists contemplate possibilities that have been overruled by the scriptures? We might as well contemplate a theory that someone other than Christ is the redeemer, or that the 10 commandments were reported incorrectly and should do precisely the opposite.

It is common among secular Christians to trivialize, spiritualize, and take away the literal meaning of scripture. They belittle the reality of scriptural authors, times, and doctrines.



Why have evolutionists gone out of their way to complicate the creation? Why have they made it so difficult for people to believe the scriptures? If we are to accept a complicated version of scripture rather than the plain meaning, then the foundations of our faith are shaken, and long-held truths are questioned. The restoration is about getting back plain and precious truths; God is,, in essence,, saying, ‘ok, the Bible isn’t working out for you guys; here’s The Book of Mormon; there’s no way you misinterpret this one.’

Jacob 4:8-10 warns us against telling God how earth was created: **“8 Behold, great and marvelous are the works of the Lord. How unsearchable are the depths of the mysteries of him; and it is impossible that man should find out all his ways. And no man knoweth of his ways save it be revealed unto him; wherefore, brethren, despise not the revelations of God. 9 For behold, by the power of his word man came upon the face of the earth, which earth was created by the power of his word. Wherefore, if God being able to speak and the world was, and to speak and man was created, O then, why not able to command the earth, or the workmanship of his hands upon the face of it, according to his will and pleasure? 10 Wherefore, brethren, seek not to counsel the Lord, but to take counsel from his hand.”**

Finally, Joseph F. Smith admonished us to trust the word over the theories of men, **“If members of the Church would place more confidence in the word of the Lord, and less confidence in the theories of men, they would be better off. I will give you a key for your guidance. Any doctrine, whether it comes in the name of religion, science, philosophy, or whatever it may be, that is in conflict with the revelations of the Lord that have been accepted by the Church as coming from the Lord will fail. It may appear to be very plausible; it may be put before you in such a way that you cannot answer it, it may appear to be established by evidence that cannot be controverted, but all you need**

do is bide your time. Time will level all things.”
(Joseph F. Smith, recorded by Joseph Fielding Smith,
The Utah Genealogical and Historical Magazine, Oct.
1930, 155)

Origin of Morals: Children of Natural Selection?

On page 26, the authors of the book "Let's Talk about Science and Religion" claim that our sense of morality is a product of evolution, rather than being directly inherited from God.

Regardless of the typical Christian evolutionist word games about how morality by evolution could be wonderful and somehow from God, this claim is just sickening.

As God's children, his **direct lineal offspring**, didn't we acquire our nature directly from God? That's why the theory of evolution is not just a bad idea; it is an evil idea, as it cancels our true direct relationship with God. We are the offspring of God (**Acts 17:29**). Adam was the first man (**Moses 1:34; D&C 84:16**). We are made in the image of God (**Gen. 1:27**). If you don't believe we are children of God, you might say we are the product of millions of years of evolution from lower species and look to the fallen competitive nature of those species for the origin of our morals.

Scripture teaches that our moral conscience came directly from God. John 1:4, 9 says, **“4 In him was life; and the life was the light of men. 9 That was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world.”**

Joseph Fielding Smith pointed out that animals do not have the same moral conscience as man. He said, **"This great gift of "conscience," which is an outward manifestation of the Spirit of Christ given to every man,** which quickens their minds and gives them intelligence and leads those who hearken to it to the divine truth, **was not given to the animal world!...** You ask why? Because the Creator **did not give** to him these moral commandments or make him responsible for his depredations on others. He is **not directed** by the "light of truth," and therefore is not morally, religiously or intellectually, responsible for his deeds." (Joseph Fielding Smith, *Man: His Origin & Destiny*, Ch. 9 The Hypothesis of Organic Evolution pt.3)

Clearly, there was no gradual transition of an animal kind developing a moral conscience as animals transformed into man. Clearly, there are many stark divisions between animal kind and mankind, which differences evolutionists are always seeking to blur.

Smith goes on to cite Dr. Harold C. Morton, who points out how conscience is universal to mankind and evolution's inability to explain this separation of man

from beast. He says, "**Man is man, not because he walks** the world of the body, the world where mechanistic cause and effect and physico-chemical forces abound, but because he knows himself to be a citizen of a higher realm, the realm of the Spirit, the realm of moral values—where Right has authority; where Obligation, not mechanical or chemical, but Moral, reigns; where **he hears a Sovereign Voice**, "Thou shalt," and knows that the victory and glory of life lies in obedience to that voice. His Mind is aware that Moral Law must be obeyed because it is Moral Law and for that reason alone...**It is universal in normal humanity.** However much moral ideals and moral life vary (e.g., some communities even praise theft, provided it is theft from enemies) the Moral Imperative is always there. I believe it can be maintained that the great moral laws—Truth, Justice, Honesty, Industry, Kindness, and so forth—are, and have been, universally known in normal human life; and that any ignorance is to be attributed to the debasement of human nature, false training, and the sway of evil ideals. Conscience, which perceives the Law, hears the voice, feels the obligation, may become "seared as with a hot iron." Even if, with what is called the "New Institutionism," we had to admit that knowledge of detailed laws is not universal, we still should affirm the universal sense of Moral Obligation to follow after whatever is allowed to be "the Good." **In some form or other the moral fact is always there**, and generally as we know it today. **How** has this come to pass? **How has the non-moral "tangle of apes" been transmuted into moral Man? Evolution**

has to tell us; and, if she cannot, her cause can only be adjudged lost... Thus Emergent Evolution offers no explanation of the Moral Imperative, nor of any other **"emergent qualities."** **It simply asks us to accept without explanation,** without any "power that works changes," the assumption that these qualities did emerge, and in an order which fits in with evolutionary speculation. All this we are to accept with "natural piety!" Surely it is not for us to accept with natural piety, but to reject with supernatural energy, **a philosophy which gets rid of both God and Cause** in order to effect its purpose. Emergent Evolution is an admission of the failure to show cause for the origin of the Moral Imperative; and still the great Imperative of our Moral Life sounds forth, unexplained and unexplainable save on this one foundation: "And God said, Let Us make Man in Our Image, After Our likeness.""

(Morton, Dr.
Harold C., The
Moral
Imperative,
Victoria
Transactions
1933, pp. 149-
153, 164.



Published in the
Journal of Transactions, of the Philosophical Society of
Great Britain, April 24, 1933)

Smith continues and points to atheists who deny justice and other cosmic truths. He says, "We live in a day when many philosophies and hypotheses are taught in

the world. The hypothesis of organic evolution is one of the most cunningly devised among the fables. It strikes at the soul of man. It denies his divine origin as a child of God, as clearly declared by Paul to the Greeks; and pronounces the eternal death of all living creatures and their assignment to everlasting oblivion. It proclaims to all who accept it that there are no rewards or punishments after death. It encourages the gratification of every urge and passion on the theory that there can come no punishment for sin. In fact, as stated by Sir Oliver Lodge, those who accept this theory are **not worrying about their sins at all**. This hypothesis teaches that **Mercy is a fallacy, Justice a dream**, and there can come no retribution or punishment for crime after death intervenes. Organic evolution mocks at retributive justice. Its philosophy is diametrically opposed to that proclaimed by Alma (see **Alma 41**).\" (Joseph Fielding Smith, *Man: His Origin & Destiny*, Ch. 9 The Hypothesis of Organic Evolution pt.3)

Smith goes on to quote poet Ralph Waldo Emerson, who taught of God's universal laws as follows, *"The dice of God are always loaded. The world looks like a multiplication table, or a mathematical equation, which turn it how you will, balances itself. Take what figure you will, its exact value, nor more nor less, still returns to you. Every secret is told, every virtue rewarded, every wrong redressed, in silence and certainty. What we call retribution is the universal necessity by which the whole appears wherever a part appears. If you see smoke, there must be fire. If you see*

a hand or a limb you know that the trunk to which it belongs is there behind." (Ralph Waldo Emerson, Essay on Compensation.)

While Christian evolutionists will still somehow maintain that mankind is accountable for sin, we must recognize where evolutionary theory naturally leads, namely, to atheism. That was why it was designed, and it will always be the ultimate logical conclusion of the theory.

Inspired scientist Sir Ambrose Fleming emphasized the differences between mankind and animal kind when he said, "Without aspiring to supply any definition in detail, we can note at once certain qualities in the human species not the smallest trace of which appear in the animal species." (Sir Ambrose Fleming, book "Evolution or Creation," chapter "The Failure of Evolution to Account for Life, Mind, and Man")

While evolutionists might point to some extremely rudimentary similarities between animals and humans, the stark differences remain the overwhelming reality.

One must again ask here, where are all the hominids today? Why have the monkeys and apes survived, and the hominid gentlemen have not? Indeed, why are there any monkeys left at all? Should there not be an endless variety between one species and the next, making discerning between any of them a matter of extreme difficulty?

Well did Paul preach, that “**All flesh is not the same flesh: but there is one kind of flesh of men, another flesh of beasts, another of fishes, and another of birds.**” (1 Cor. 15:38-39.)



Nature is Strong Evidence for God, Don't Separate Temporal/Spiritual

On page 19, the LTSR (Let's Talk about Science and Religion, an evolutionist book) authors claim that science “cannot offer evidence for or against the existence of God.” This divorce of nature from God is a startling contradiction to the teachings of the restoration and sounds like something you would hear from a secular atheist.

Stephen Meyer in “Darwin's Doubt” discusses nature's testimony to God, as evident in nature, and how modern science has chosen to disregard it. Here are some important points he makes:

1. The book “The Invisible Man” by GK



Chesterton is a good example of how modern science fails to understand reality. In the story, someone was murdered while four honest guards did not detect the murderer. It was the mailman who walked up to the house, went inside, and then walked back out - they just didn't suspect him. Similarly, God's hand is plainly evident, but many take the regular order of nature for granted and fail to remember that only God could perform these wonders.

2. This is similar to how nature clearly suggests an intelligent designer - it's just that scientists are **unwilling to acknowledge** the designer.

3. It's not just that nature doesn't look like it evolved; nature specifically appears to have been **designed**.

But Neo-Darwinists respond to this natural phenomenon by calling it an illusion.

4. The commitment to materialism in science causes them to reject intelligent design. It's not that materialism is what the evidence shows; it's their only allowed framework, even when the evidence points elsewhere.

5. Scientists have decided, by fiat, to exclude anything involving intelligent design, which is greatly hindering scientific progress and limiting the types of theories that are tested.

6. We shouldn't be committed to abstract criteria about whether something is scientific or not. **There are disagreements about what science is. Rather, we should focus on whether something is true.**

7. **Evolution's monopoly on science** today stifles discussion.

8. Intelligent design **detects and identifies** creation; it doesn't just assert the existence of a designer. The ability to detect design brings science and faith into real harmony.

Now, let us consider that the primary purpose of Scripture is to prove God. God foretells and does miraculous things, and since these things happened, we will find evidence (science) that reminds us of these events. Today's spiritualists think everything in scripture is figurative and non-literal. God is a literal being, with real standards. He has the power to both bless and curse. He fully intends to hold us accountable for our actions, and that isn't quite so friendly a message as evolution can offer, to **"eat drink and be merry, for tomorrow we die."** We preach the good news of the gospel, but for those who reject goodness, there's plenty of bad news.



When God says He covered the whole earth and its mountains with a flood about 4,500 years ago, and all the science shows that such an event occurred, will they still insist that science doesn't offer evidence for God? Universal Model Science Author Dean Sessions spoke in his first textbook about a BYU professor (whose name shall not be named) who dogmatically told him that there would never be any scientific evidence for Noah's flood. Boy, was he wrong! Dean has documented in his books literally hundreds of pieces of evidence for this flood, which clearly covered the whole world.

The Psalms say the heaven & the firmament declare God's work (Ps. 19:1). Clearly, science (the study of nature) gives evidence for God. Isaac Newton,

arguably the greatest scientist of all time, said, “The more I study science, the more I believe in God.”



(Image author unknown)

In truth, all science declares the reality of God. We and our children have been robbed of the truth. Only in these last days has the devil been able to fully cloak the hand of God in nature by selling us the theory of evolution. Evolution is only a 200-year-old theory. Many scientists before that were well-versed in the plethora of evidence for a young earth, a worldwide flood, and the divine creation of each separate animal species, among other things, evidence that is now lost to most as a result of its systemic removal from the public square. It is easy to understand that God directly created the earth and all things on it, as the scriptures describe; only in the sophisticated schools of our time can we disregard the clear witness of nature.

IS NATURE AN EVIDENT WITNESSES OF GOD?

On page 28, the LTSR authors say, “these evidences [of nature] would hardly **witness** to them [non-believers] of a Supreme Creator,” yet Alma 30:44 says nature is a “witness” for God. Nature is calculated to create faith in God. Even a child can see nature and know it was intelligently created. The witness of nature is evidence for God. Nature is sufficient for everyone to choose to accept or reject God, and therefore, **all** will be held accountable for that choice. The prophets testify that all people will be judged (**Rev. 20:12; 2 Ne. 9:22, 15**). Nature is the universal human experience, and we have scriptural assurances that it will play a big role in the final judgment.



On page 29, the LTSR authors cite Matt. 16:17 that Peter is blessed because he learned of Christ through spiritual revelation, not by flesh and blood (nature).

They do this to try to build their case that a person should keep science and religion separate, and that nature doesn't prove God. They say, “**Scientific evidence will not reveal God to us.**” However, this verse does not mean that nature can't reveal truth to us. Those who deny Christ, who refuse all spiritual information, will eventually bow the knee to Christ when they become acquainted with the undeniable natural truth of God as the creator. Believing without seeing is the more blessed path, but as Thomas demonstrated, seeing is believing, too. All science points to God, and if scientists are honest in their research, they will eventually find Him, whether sooner through academic integrity or later through the forceful events of nature in the last days. Perhaps there are classes in hell that remind people of nature's witness, which will strengthen their faith.

Elder McConkie once taught that the test of life is to see whether we will believe the truth or a lie. There is evidence either way, and it's up to us to make the choice.

SIGNS & EVIDENCE JEOPARDIZE TESTIMONY?

On page 24, the LTSR authors state, “**searching for signs of God's existence, while possible to receive, equally puts our testimony in jeopardy.**” God places

clues of His existence in nature because He wants those with eyes to see to find them. As Proverbs 25:2 states, *“It is the glory of God to conceal a thing: but the honour of kings is to search out a matter.”* We don’t base our faith on signs, but signs follow faith! Expect to find signs if you have faith. Converted people should be building a massive reservoir of physical evidence, and this will, of course, align with the scriptures. If we want to discuss the evidence we have been blessed to see, which happens to strengthen someone’s faith and help lead them to God, so be it.

On page 28, the LTSR authors point out the scripture that says, *“all things denote there is a God”* (Alma 30:44), which is commendable. However, they then go on in the same page to say, *“Physical evidences follow our faith; they do not build our faith.”* Can this be true? Whenever you receive evidence, whether physical or spiritual, it will build your faith. One can’t only rely on physical evidence, but build it does. Some chose to live in rebellion when signs are shown, and others chose to repent. We all possess spiritual knowledge of God, which is often referred to as the light of Christ. Physical evidence can help us gain the courage to let that faith shine and flourish.

SPIRITUAL INFORMS TEMPORAL

On page 29, LTSR (Let's Talk about Science and Religion, a book promoting evolution to Latter-day Saints) claims that “a testimony pertains to spiritual matters,” but once we have that testimony of spiritual matters, it should, of necessity, shape our views of temporal matters. **The spiritual informs the temporal!** If we gain a witness that the



Bible is true, we should trust the worldwide flood, the 7-day creation, Adam as the first man, the Fall bringing birth and death into the world, and other temporal tenets of faith. If scripture says one thing and science says another, having the spiritual witness informs the natural understanding. Spiritual revelations warn us of deception, so we aren't tossed to and fro by every wind of doctrine (James 1:5-6).

NO SEPARATING SPIRITUAL & TEMPORAL

On page 21, the LTSR authors argue that religion and science are different ways of learning and call for separating spiritual and temporal learning. However, scriptures tell us that there is no difference between spiritual and temporal (D&C 29:34). Yes, we can and should mix the two, letting the laws of both govern our investigations. **Learn by study AND faith (D&C**

88:118). Bring all truth into one great whole, marry the two into one flesh.

Evolutionary Pseudoscience is Dangerous Indeed

On page 32, LTSR discusses the dangers of pseudoscience. They point out how false science takes its toll on lives. They correctly state that “**pseudoscience causes physical harm.**”



What are they referring to? A poorly designed airplane isn't going to bode well, but there are even greater dangers that **kill both body and soul (Matt. 10:28)**. The original full title of Darwin's book was “On The Origin of Species by Means of Natural Selection, or the Preservation of **Favoured Races** in the Struggle for Life.” Last I checked, we were all children of God, made in HIS image. There are no favored races! Adam's father wasn't a hominid, it was God (**Luke 3**)!

EVOLUTION
EXPLAINS
EVERYTHING!



WAIT SCIENTIFIC
RACISM IS
THE THEME OF...



ORIGIN OF SPECIES

BY MEANS OF NATURAL SELECTION, OR THE
PRESERVATION OF FAVORED RACES IN
THE STRUGGLE FOR LIFE

BY

CHARLES DARWIN, M.A., LL.D., F.R.S.

(Title page of Darwin's book republished in 1902)

Many mass shooters and arch tyrants like Hitler have based their killing on the theory of evolution, citing its core tenets of survival of the fittest and favoring more advanced races of humans. The Columbine shooter Eric Harris, on his website, wrote, “Getting rid of all the stupid and weak organisms.” The day of his attack, he wore a shirt that said “Natural Selection.” By their fruits ye shall know them – this theory is evil!

The whole of their fourth chapter, “teach true science, not pseudo science,” calls for the teaching of evolution, which is itself a pseudo-science. Elder Anderson

recently pointed out that 30 million have left Christianity in the last 10 years. Many report evolution as the reason for the death of their faith.



I think of Hitler, whose views were based on evolution, and other eugenicists who want to kill inferior races who haven't evolved as much. Hitler believed he was enhancing humanity by accelerating evolution. Darwinism inspired Nazism and it's not unlikely that it will inspire similar movements in the future.

Richard Weikart, author of "From Darwin to Hitler: Evolutionary Ethics, Eugenics and Racism in Germany" and "Darwinian Racism: How Darwinism Influenced Hitler, Nazism, and White Nationalism" says, "Examining Hitler's ideology, the official biology curriculum, the writings of Nazi anthropologists, and Nazi periodicals, we find that **Nazi racial theorists did indeed embrace human and racial evolution.** They not only taught that humans had evolved from primates, but they believed the Aryan or Nordic race had **evolved to a higher level**

than other races because of the harsh **climatic** conditions that influenced **natural selection**. They also claimed that Darwinism underpinned specific elements of Nazi racial ideology, including **racial inequality**, **the necessity of the racial struggle for existence**, and collectivism.” (Richard Weikart, <https://www.csustan.edu/sites/default/files/History/Faculty/Weikart/Darwinism-in-Nazi-Racial-Thought.pdf>)

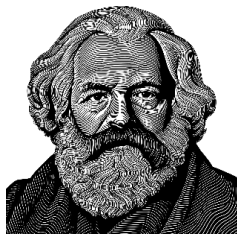
Yes, Darwin and other evolutionists were advocates of blacks being inferior, claiming that they hadn’t evolved away from monkeys as much as the white man had.



(Image: Wiki Commons)

Then we could talk about popular radio songs which say things like “you and me baby ain’t nothin’ but mammals, so let’s do it like they do on the Discovery Channel” (song by The Bloodhound Gang) or “baby, I’m preying on you tonight, hunt you down eat you alive, just like animals...don’t tell no lie you can’t deny the beast inside.” (song by Maroon 5) This is

called moral Darwinism - it teaches us that we are animals, and we will take the license to act accordingly. Marx and other maniacs fell in love with the idea.



Mao Zedong, the greatest killer of all time, used evolution to justify his work. He said, “The foundation of Chinese Socialism rests on Darwin and the theory of evolution.” (Communist dictator Mao Zedong. Source: Yabya, *Communism in Ambush*, 130.)



(Image: Wiki Commons)

How ironic it is that trendies call creationism racist when it's the evolutionists who have actually committed racist crimes, and who insinuate that darker races are less evolved. Scientific American said, “At

the heart of white evangelical **creationism** is the **mythology** of an unbroken white lineage that stretches back to a light-skinned Adam and Eve.” The nonsense continues: “The fantasy of a continuous line of white descendants segregates white heritage from Black bodies.” What is the stated goal? Getting God further out of culture. They say, “My hope is that if we make the connection between **creationism** and **racist ideology** clearer, we will provide more ammunition to get science into the classroom — and into our culture at large.”

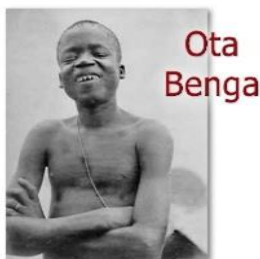
(<https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/denial-of-evolution-is-a-form-of-white-supremacy/>)

We can see who the actual racists are and who the race-baiters are. Will you join them in reducing the Bible to mythology and laud their theories? We know the fruits of evolution are evil, and we know the fruits of the Bible are divine and promote human rights. It’s the Jews and the Christians who have always been against genocidal abortion and other forms of human sacrifice. It’s these devout followers of the bible who have always respected human life, teaching that all are made in the image of God as God’s offspring.

Here’s another bout of evolutionary racism for you. Let’s learn about the caged man, Ota Benga. He was “...caged at the Bronx Zoo where he came to be ‘exhibited’ in the zoo’s Monkey House as part of a display intended to promote the concepts of human

evolution and scientific racism....represented as the lowest form of human development.”

(Wiki/Ota_Benga)



Ota had a family. Eventually, a **Baptist preacher protested this racism** and got Ota released. Shortly thereafter, Ota killed himself from the psychological terror of his captivity and the demeaning messages of being sub-human. These are the fruits of evolution teaching. **Where are the social justice warriors against evolution?**



Racist implications of evolution are downplayed today but continue to exist at the core of the theory. The

gospel message is something very different – that every human, regardless of color, is a direct descendant of God the Father.

Eugenics, the killing of unfavorable humans, is another fruit of evolutionary theory. Between 1939 and 1941, over 100,000 physically and mentally disabled Germans were killed in secret, without the consent of their families. Founder of Planned Parenthood Margaret Sanger said, “The most serious charge that can be brought against modern ‘benevolence’ is that it encourages the perpetuation of defectives, delinquents and dependents. These are the most dangerous elements in the world community, the most devastating curse on human progress and expression.” (see icr.org/article/evolution-american-abortion-mentality/)



We could also talk about the evolution-inspired history of 50,000 Americans being involuntarily sterilized because society viewed them as unfavorable and did not want them reproducing.

I'll mention that I also had a BYU professor who suggested students with disabilities may wish to refrain from reproducing. This was highly offensive.

Have you figured out who the real racists are? Have you figured out whose theories are dangerous?

As we consider these dictators of the past, I'm reminded of the Berlin Wall. I think there are parallels in today's academic establishment: a wall exists, and on one side of it lives freedom of thought. On the other side lives the fallen kingdom of evolution, which arbitrarily banned all intelligent design inquiry.



If Nature Doesn't *Need* God (As Evolution Claims), He Probably Doesn't Exist

So why are so many Christians losing their faith? Because of the central message of evolution: That nature formed by itself, without the assistance of God.

If we can explain all of nature without God (which is the primary goal of evolution), then God probably doesn't exist. Science has routinely rejected theories that nature doesn't require (as it should). If nature doesn't need something, it probably doesn't exist. Antoine Lavoisier, an accountant by day and chemist by night, was able to refute the chemical theory of phlogiston because nothing in nature required it to exist. Since it wasn't required, he rightly concluded that in all likelihood, it does not exist. Another example of this occurred when brilliant young Humphry Davy demonstrated that heat wasn't a substance then called caloric but was rather the movement of chemicals. Again, Davy demonstrated that when you don't need something to explain nature, it probably doesn't exist! When evolution claims that nature has no need for God, reasonable people conclude that, in all likelihood, God does not exist. This is the problem with the naturalistic philosophy at the heart of evolution.

Christians may be tempted here to respond, ‘God used evolution.’ However, you can’t say God used evolution—that’s not what evolution is. Evolution doesn’t align with God’s plan; it’s simply bizarre to try to reconcile the two. For one example (and there are many), if you’re using divine selection rather than natural selection, why is it taking so long? Natural selection’s ‘old Earth’ is based on timeframes in which random processes supposedly create more and more advanced organisms. Does God really need to rely on such a process?



On a similar note, Pasteur proved that life cannot spontaneously generate (life doesn’t come from non-living things). So, why do evolutionists continue to claim that life ‘emerged’ because of an explosion followed by millions of years of rain on rocks? As Joseph Fielding Smith put it, "[Notwithstanding the great discovery of Pasteur, Darwin and his followers were not retarded in their search to find the beginning of life and to prove that all things have developed from spontaneous life. This question has never been answered successfully other than the account in the scriptures: If spontaneous generation cannot be created now, how could it be possible several](#)

million or billion years ago? Conditions, according to the teachings of science, are more favorable now than they possibly could have been in the far distant past. To get a beginning these advocates must assume some **starting point**, notwithstanding there is no evidence that will support it. All evidence points to the contrary." (Joseph Fielding Smith, *Man: His Origin & Destiny*, Ch. 7 The Hypothesis of Organic Evolution)

Fortunately, the witness of nature is that God was indeed required for the creation of all things. Natural selection, the engine of evolution, is entirely insufficient to explain the cosmos and the abundant life therein. The primary role of God has always been Creator. As evolution seeks to diminish God's role as Creator, let us demonstrate the impossibility of common ancestry, and preach the lost knowledge of a young earth with lifeforms directly placed thereon by God the Father of us all.



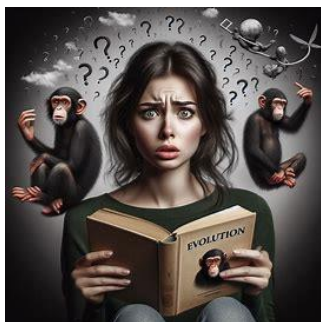
,

Testimony of God's Plan & The Restoration

TESTIMONY OF GOD'S PLAN:

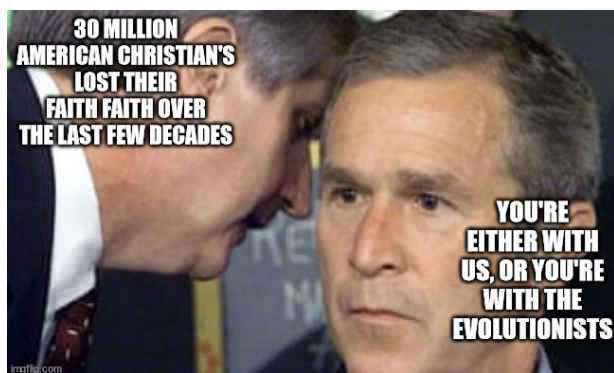
On page 29, the LTSR authors quote Elder Oaks, stating that a testimony includes knowledge of “facts” and the “reality” of the Godhead and the Atonement. But is that all? A testimony also includes knowledge of the creation and the Fall, which are the two forgotten pillars of the plan of Salvation, as taught by **Elder Bruce R. McConkie** (*The Three Pillars of Eternity*, 1981, BYU Speeches). Evolution denies the need for a Creator, denies the concept of the Fall, and denies the necessity of atonement, suggesting that we will simply evolve. We can't just spiritualize doctrines into non-reality; these events actually happened! Yet modern science denies all of them. Evolution should be an obvious heresy as it destroys the Garden of Eden and the Fall which occurred there, dramatically impacting all living things.

Joseph Fielding Smith, with several experts, demonstrates how evolution cuts at not only the doctrine of the fall, but at the entirety of God's plan. He said, "**Organic evolution tends to rob God of his mercy,**



his justice and his saving grace. It denies the resurrection of the dead and the gift of Jesus Christ to all men that they will live again. It denies the spiritual creation and places the earth and all of its inhabitants beyond the power of redemption. It teaches that in some unknown way and at some unknown time, life commenced in some spontaneous way in a speck of protoplasm. It cannot explain how this speck of protoplasm, or cell, happened to be. It is merely a postulate, a guess that such a thing really happened. Therefore man is beholden to no one for his existence. He is not, according to this theory, the offspring of God. He had no divine origin, no spirit in his body that is eternal. When he dies he shall return to the dust and death is the end of all. There is no other conclusion; no doctrine more hopeful than total extinction of the individual. These are the rewards offered to you and to me and to every creature through this wicked doctrine which today prevails so nearly universal, making atheists of mankind. Is there any wonder that men of renown like John Fisk can say: "Theology has much to say about original sin. This original sin is neither more nor less than the brute-inheritance which every man carried with him." (Fisk, John, *The Destiny of Man*, p. 103.) Or, Sir Oliver Lodge: "As a matter of fact, the higher man of today is not worrying about his sins at all, still less about their punishment. His mission, if he is good for anything, is to be up and doing; and insofar as he acts wrongly or unwisely he expects to suffer. He may consciously plead for mitigation on the ground of

good intentions, but never either consciously or unconsciously will any one but a cur ask for the punishment to fall on someone else, nor rejoice if told that it already has so fallen." (Sir Oliver Lodge, Man and the Universe, p. 204.) This is what comes naturally out of the doctrine of organic evolution. It ridicules religion. It denies the Fatherhood of God and the Sonship of Jesus Christ. It places man as the natural kin of the animal, a descendant of a rat, a worm and an amoeba. Those who like it may have this doctrine, but they have no right to attempt to drag their fellow men, who are "begotten sons and daughters unto God," down to their level." (Joseph Fielding Smith, Man: His Origin & Destiny, Ch. 8 The Hypothesis of Organic Evolution pt.2)



TESTIMONY OF THE RESTORATION:

On page 29 the LTSR authors continue in the quote of Elder Oaks in saying a testimony involves knowledge of the restoration. There are scores of pages of restoration teachings from the brethren against evolution. Truly, knowledge of the creation, which directly contradicts the world's theories of creation, is a big part of the restoration of the fullness of the gospel!

Scriptures of the restoration go against evolution. For starters:

-2 Nephi 2:22 there was no birth or death before the fall of Adam.

-D&C 77:6-7, 12 Earth's temporal lifespan is 7,000 years (not billions).

-JST 2 Peter 3:8; Facs. 2 Fig. 1; Abr. 3:6-11 Each day of creation being 1000 years, not millions or billions of years.

-JST 2 Peter 3:5-7;
Gen. 1:1-10 Earth was created by water and was later covered by a worldwide flood higher than the mountains which



Noah and the animals couldn't just run away from.

-D&C 84:16 Adam was the first man.

-D&C 29:34 We shouldn't separate spiritual and temporal things.

And a few from the Bible:

-**Luke 3:38** Adam was literally a son of God (not a son of millions of years of monkeys and humanoids).

-**Psalms 19:1** Nature does prove God.

-**Romans 5:12, 14** By one man sin and death entered the world.

-**1 Cor. 15:21-22,26** by the man Adam came death.

-**Genesis 3:17-19; Romans 8:18-22**: Plants were also affected by the Fall.

-**Genesis 1, 6, 7, Moses 2**: Animals only reproduce after their kind (no common ancestor).

-**Genesis 3:17-20** shows even plant life was impacted by the Fall of man, and that Eve was the mother of ALL living.

-**Romans 8 :21-22** speaks of all of creation being cursed.

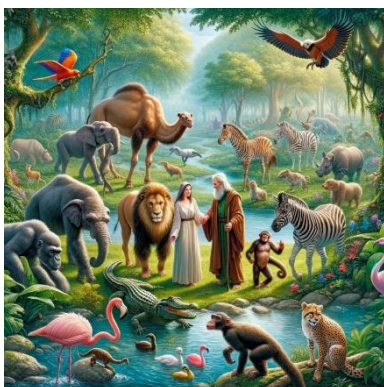
-**1 Corinthians 15:21-22, 26, and 45** speak of Adam as the first man, and of death entering the world at his Fall.

-**Romans 5: 12-14** also teaches these doctrines of death originating from the sin of man.

What are the Spiritual Truths We Can Learn?

On page 29, the LTSR authors refer to the **spiritual truths we can learn**. That's grand, but I want to know why we don't discuss the spiritual truths of creation?

The prophets and scriptures have many **highly specific teachings on the creation, and these are strangely absent** from the arguments of evolutionists in the Church. Typically, if these teachings come up at all, the evolutionist has to spend his time trying to explain them away, rather than emphasizing them as wonderful truths God has condescended to reveal to us. If your theory requires you to brush a whole series of scriptures under the rug, maybe it's time to reevaluate. Let us recall President Nelson's teachings on how to approach prophetic teachings. He said, **"I have implicit faith in the Lord and in His prophets. I have learned not to put question marks but to use exclamation points when calls are issued through inspired channels of priesthood government."** (Cited in the Teachings of the Presidents manual Ch. 21: Prophets; <https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/study/manual/teachings-of-presidents-of-the-church-russell-m-nelson/21-prophets?lang=eng>)



Prophetic teachings are primary sources of spiritual truth, and if we reject them, then the ‘spiritual truths’ we find may be coming from dark spiritual forces rather than from God. Certainly, Darwin and his associates were influenced by a false spirit.

Joseph Smith warned against the influence of false spirits when he taught: “nothing is a greater injury to the children of men than to be under the influence of a false spirit, when **they think they have the spirit of God.** Thousands have felt the influence of its terrible power, and baneful effects; long pilgrimages have been undertaken, penances endured, and pain, misery, and ruin have followed in their train; nations have been convulsed, kingdoms overthrown, provinces laid waste, and blood, carnage, and desolation are the habilaments in which it has been clothed.” (Times and Seasons April 1, 1842)

In a humorous but telling gay pride flag, one of the tenets they claim is “**science is real.**” Of course, they’re referring to old Earth and evolution, the parts of science which most people know in fact aren’t real. The flag is full of misrepresentations and twisted half-truths. It may as well have said, “long live anarchy.” It’s also amusing that this flag is what appeared on Amazon when I searched for a pro-life flag:



SCRIPTURE NOT SCIENTIFICALLY ACCURATE?

On page 50, the LTSR authors claim that the creation accounts in Genesis, Moses, and Abraham are “not meant to be a scientific textbook on how the creation took place.” One wonders how far they go with this line of logic – not a science textbook, okay, but are the scriptures the direct opposite of the truth on all things relating to the creation? Because evolution’s claims go against just about everything the scriptures teach on creation, from the order of the events of the creation, to species only being able to reproduce after their own kind, to Adam being the first man and the one responsible for bringing death into the world, and on and on.

After making their ‘scriptures aren’t a science textbook’ claim, on what authority it is unknown, they

have a footnote. Splendid! Perhaps this will show us on what authority they felt they could make a claim like this, undermining the truthfulness of Scripture. What does the footnote lead to? ...Some random guy's podcast! Bravo! You've found one of the many who are willing to preach the philosophies of men, mingled with scripture.

There's a very popular secular theory that says the scriptures should be completely divorced from nature and reality, but it has never been God's message to separate temporal and spiritual things. In particular, the message of the restoration repeatedly affirms the real, concrete nature of the supernatural (D&C 29:34). There are real angels. God is a real person and has a body, which is the father of our bodies. God lives on a planet. We are God's literal offspring. Noah's flood was real. All the miracles of the Bible were real. You could say that the faith of the Latter-day Saints is a far more reality-based faith than that of any other Christian denomination. Let the rest of the world cower and compromise, being afraid to take the scriptures literally, but let the saints, without excuse, boldly embrace the shockingly miraculous nature of the restored gospel. Well did Moroni teach of the miraculous nature of God when he said, "...it is by faith that miracles are wrought; and it is by faith that angels appear and minister unto men; wherefore, if these things have ceased wo be unto the children of men, for it is because of unbelief, and all is vain."

(Moroni 7:37) Truly, the evolutionary worldview is NOT a miraculous worldview! The God who raises the dead doesn't need natural selection and billions of years to get things sorted out. So, take heed to Moroni's warning, and believe in the miraculous creation! Remember, the Devil has deceived the whole world (Rev. 12:9). Even if you can't see the issues with evolutionary science claims, at least rely on plain scriptural truths about creation, and that will be sufficient grounds for rejecting the insidious claims of Darwinian evolution.

SPIRITUAL TESTIMONIES JEOPARDIZED BY REJECTION OF CREATION DOCTRINE:

Is God allowed to reveal to us things that aren't supported by modern science? Can we gain a witness that the bible is real history? Can we obtain evidence and gain a witness that God created the world in seven days, or that Noah's flood was a real worldwide event, as described in the Bible? God can and does witness these things which contradict mainstream modern science.

Yes, we are aware of religious overreach in the past that said the sun revolves around the earth, but this religious argument was based on obscure scripture references, whereas the basics of creation, which decisively out rule evolution, are based on a plethora of

scriptures and centuries of fundamental repeated teachings of latter-day prophets.

With restored knowledge of the Creation, will we maintain our views in alignment with the secular world? The Book of Mormon prophet Lehi laments the fact that we reject the truth about creation, despite having numerous revelations about how the creation actually occurred. He prophesies, “...the time cometh that **they shall dwindle in unbelief**, after they have received so great blessings from the hand of the Lord—**having a knowledge of the creation** of the earth, and all men, **knowing** the great and marvelous works of the Lord from the creation of the world...” (2 Ne. 1:10)



BEWARE SPIRITUALIZING SCRIPTURE:

Evolutionists attempt to circumvent the natural implications of the spiritual witness of Scripture by spiritualizing passages to convey meanings that differ from their literal and straightforward messages. In Scripture, we refer to this alteration of Scripture as “wresting,” and it is repeatedly condemned. Alma 13:20 warns against those who would change plain meanings of scripture to fit their agendas, “**Now I need not rehearse the matter; what I have said may suffice.**”

Behold, the scriptures are before you; if ye will wrest them it shall be to your own destruction.”

D&C 10:63 continues to explain that wresting scriptures causes contention: “And this I do that I may establish my gospel, there may not be so much contention; Satan doth stir up hearts of the people contention concerning the points of my doctrine; and in these things they do err, for they do wrest the scriptures and do not understand them.”



Notice that God’s plain doctrine enables there to be no contention. This doesn’t mean being pacifists and letting the atheistic scientists do whatever they want, just for the sake of peace. There is no peace except when God’s word prevails. The acquisition of real and lasting peace is why we are told that we have an “imperative duty” to “waste and wear out our lives in bringing to light all the hidden things of darkness” (D&C 123:11, 13). God wants us to speak more, not less, about his word. What he told Joseph Smith, He tells all His servants: “And at all times, and in all places, he shall open his mouth and declare my gospel

as with the voice of a trump, both day and night.”
(D&C 24:12)

On page 29, the LTSR authors speak of **spiritual** things being learned by spiritual methods, and **temporal** things being learned by temporal methods. This shortchanges both methods. In a world where atheistic political agendas have infiltrated the sciences, people would do well to see how this politically corrupt world works and think twice before buying everything published in an ‘academic’ journal. Remember, the Devil has deceived the whole world (Rev. 12:9)! We are taught untestable theories as though they were facts. We are bombarded with clever deceptions at every turn, many of which are already proven hoaxes, but that doesn’t stop them from inventing more.



SCIENCE SHAKING FAITH

On page 30, the LTSR authors warn people against the dangers of “**new scientific discovery**” that could shake spiritual faith.

Ironically, it is evolutionary ‘discoveries’ that we must guard against.

On page 30, the LTSR authors rightly state that “spiritual truth remains constant,” but let us not forget that temporal truth is also constant.



Whenever the theory of evolution is proven false (when they can no longer dismiss contrary findings), they simply update the theory, claiming that this new version is how it has been all along. Darwin wanted a transitional fossil record showing evolution, but when that didn't pan out, the theory was revised to say that those fossils are no longer a requirement. If we are so far removed from where the theory originated and are resorting to all kinds of mental gymnastics to keep it alive, shouldn't we consider that the whole theory was uninspired in the first place? To keep pace with the blunders of evolutionary theory, the Earth is aging at an astonishing rate. Brothers and sisters, let it go!

Which Teachings Lead Children Away from Christ?

On page 34, the LTSR authors mention students who claim that they were initially taught pseudoscience by Church members, which led them away from evolution. However, they later learned the ‘truth’ of evolution at a university (naturally including Brigham Young University since that’s the only kind of science they offer there). What pseudoscience they don’t say. Maybe the pseudoscience that supports the 7-day creation and a worldwide flood.



Is science demonstrating historical events to be classed as pseudoscience? Does evolution get a monopoly on truth? If anyone gets a monopoly on truth, it’s God, as described in His word. When one becomes familiar with the many scientific cover-ups to uphold evolutionary theory, it becomes easy to see that God meant what He said in the Bible and the scriptures of the restoration of the Creation.

On page 34, the LTSR authors say, “We have encountered individuals who have the mistaken idea that providing pseudoscience will somehow save

testimonies. They place the blame for declining religious devotion among the rising generation squarely on science and believe that creating and teaching an alternative to science will not threaten testimonies and will help students avoid spiritual conflict.”

Let’s break this down. Creation advocates don’t create “an alternative to science,” they promote an alternative to evolution by **pointing out science that evolutionists have suppressed**. No creation advocates favor ending science; they favor **ending dogmatic anti-scientific theories**. They favor ending false (pseudo) science, theories that are obviously not true, not only because of scientific evidence to the contrary, but particularly because they don’t testify of Christ and even deny Christ’s role in creation (**Moroni 7:14-17**). I’m not aware of anyone promoting decidedly false science to try and save testimonies. Creationists fight against the machine which crushes anything disagreeable to modern science. **D&C 123:11-15** certainly applies to those who try and promote the now hidden truths of creation which directly contradict the monopolistic theory of evolution: **“11 And also it is an imperative duty that we owe to all the rising generation, and to all the pure in heart— 12 For there are many yet on the earth among all sects, parties, and denominations, who are blinded by the subtle craftiness of men, whereby they lie in wait to deceive, and who are only kept from the truth because they**

know not where to find it— 13 Therefore, that we should waste and **wear out our lives in bringing to light** all the hidden things of darkness, wherein we know them; and they are truly manifest from heaven— 14 These should then be attended to with great earnestness. 15 **Let no man count them as small** things; for there is much which lieth in futurity, pertaining to the saints, which depends upon these things.”

WHAT HAVE THEY BEEN TAUGHT?

On page 34 the LTSR authors say, “when individuals find out that there is overwhelming scientific evidence to refute **what they’ve been taught**, they start to wonder about the truthfulness of other things they’ve been taught (for example, resurrection, the Atonement, and the reality of a Savior and a Heavenly Father). The result is absolutely heartbreaking.” On this tragedy, we agree.



I ask then, what exactly is “**what they’ve been taught**” which contradicts science and favors religious doctrines? Most parents aren’t at home teaching their children about the points of evolution; instead, they are teaching doctrines from the scriptures, many of which happen to be in direct conflict with the theory of evolution. There are many scientific terms and

descriptions in these sacred books, calculated to inform us on a great and many scientific points.

Now let's talk about the handful of parents who actively teach creation science at home. Let's say they get something wrong sometimes, such as, 'Oops, maybe the ark landed here rather than there.' Will that shake their testimony? No. Parents who teach children science that upholds the scriptures make the scriptures the foundation of their teachings, and this is a sure foundation upon which they will not fail (Hel. 5:12).



Perhaps creationist parents' capital offense is to teach their children to take the scriptures literally. Joseph Smith also advocated this approach. He said, **“What is the rule of interpretation? Just no interpretation at all. [It should be] understood precisely as it reads.”** (quoted in

<https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/study/ensign/2002/08/the-prophet-joseph-smiths-use-of-the-old-testament?lang=eng>) There is a tendency among secularists to dismiss the teachings of Joseph Smith, he is the head of this dispensation, and one declared in scripture to be in standing next to Christ Himself (D&C 135:3). Joseph said, **“I never told you I was perfect— but there is no error in the revelations which**

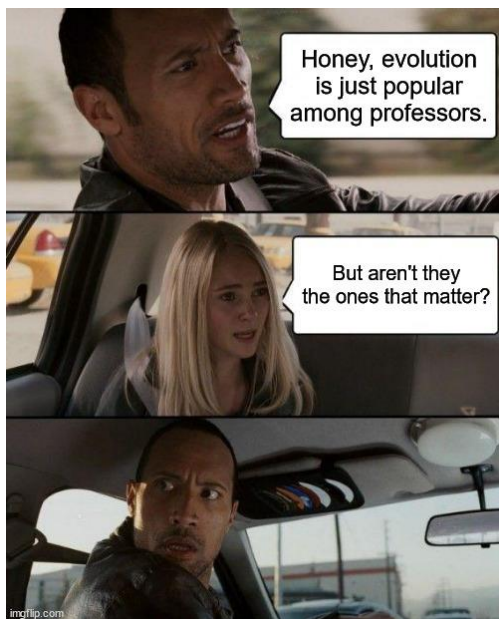
I have taught.” (Words of Joseph Smith. 12 May 1844, pg. 369)

Joseph Fielding Smith stood with Christ when he taught, “I have that absolute confidence in every vision, in every manifestation, in every revelation that has come to us through the Prophet Joseph Smith. I know he spoke the truth. ... Everything has worked out harmoniously and according to the revelations we find in the Old Testament and in the New.” (President Joseph Fielding Smith (1876–1972), “Joseph Smith’s First Prayer,” *Improvement Era*, June 1960, 401.)

On page 35, the LTSR authors say that Satan “**seeks to infuse doubt into our minds when we encounter something in science that seems to disagree with what we thought about the world.**”

So, what did we think about the world? That man was made by God, not from a monkey? Is that one of the things we thought about the world that we will have to let go of? Or perhaps that God placed different kinds of animals on the earth, does that have to go too?

Accurate science and doctrine work together, bringing all things together into one great whole. Evolution’s fruit is to get people to disbelieve and hate religious doctrines. The one naturally points to Christ, the other unnaturally denies Him.



While it's true that there can be some minor difficulties in matching what we learn today with what we knew yesterday, the theory of evolution takes it to a whole new level. Evolution is a radical new worldview that emerged in the 1800s, directly opposing a plethora of scriptures, both ancient and modern. Evolution emerged around the same time as the restored gospel and could be considered part of the 'anti-church', which would rise to combat the true church, opposing it in all things. Quite simply, evolution is an apocalyptic theory of doom.

Doctrines of evolution and doctrines of the Creation cannot be mixed any more than Zion and Babylon can meet in the middle. Mixing leads straight to Babylon. Zion is pure, or nothing. So long as we persist in denying miraculous truths about the Creation, we will never merit the truth God represents. Rather than accepting the truth, evolutionary theory presents us with bogus explanations for some things that have not yet been revealed, and bogus explanations that directly contradict things that have been revealed.

CAN'T CO-TEACH EVOLUTION & DOCTRINE: RISING SECULARITY

On page 35, the LTSR authors encourage parents to “teach science in your homes.” They want you to teach the gospel alongside evolution, but this is only to make the difficult process of converting people to evolution easier. Evolution is unnatural, nonsensical, it takes lots of brainwashing to swallow. Evolutionary theory is a radically different worldview from what the saints have been taught in their homes and churches for the past 200 years.



Joseph Fielding Smith pointed out how what parents should teach at home varies greatly from evolution. He said, “In the home parents are commanded by revelation to teach their children these principles of the Gospel...[quotes D&C 68:25-29]... In this manner they are instructed in the home. Then they go to school and find these glorious principles ridiculed and denied by the doctrines of men founded on foolish theories which deny that man is the offspring of God and that when we pray to him as our Father, our words are meaningless and that man is the offspring of some worm or amoeba that in some unknown way multiplied to fill the earth with all its plants and animal life. It is true that not all teachers believe and teach these foolish doctrines; but these theories do dominate the secular education of our youth. They are constantly published in our newspapers, in magazines and other periodicals, and those who believe in God and his divine revelations frequently sit supinely by without raising

any voice of protest. Under these adverse conditions is there any wonder that the student becomes confused? He does not know whether to believe what his parents and the Church have taught him, or to believe what the teacher says and what is written in the textbook he is given to study. Naturally students have confidence in their teachers and as that confidence increases, there comes a lack of confidence in the doctrines of the Church and the parental instruction. These are critical years and every effort should be made in the Sunday School, Mutual Improvement and all the Auxiliary organizations and Priesthood quorums, to strengthen the faith of these young people. Bishops and other presiding officers should see to it that only men and women who are converted and full of faith are appointed to teach. Too frequently, I regret to say, unwittingly presiding officers in wards and quorums choose teachers that have scholastic training without discovering whether or not they are converted and in full faith in the doctrines of the Church. When this happens and a teacher is appointed who is filled with modernistic doctrines conflicting with what the Lord has revealed, and these theories he presents before the class, confusion is the result and we find confusion from within. Under such conditions, with enemies in our ranks, the influence of both Church and home is further weakened and our youth more seriously impressed with these false theories.” (Joseph Fielding Smith, *Man: His Origin & Destiny*, Introduction)



Yes, teach your children science, and when you do, use the classical technique of focusing on that which is demonstrable, and which doesn't conflict with scripture. Evolution doesn't qualify as quality science education on either of those grounds. Homeschooled children are often much better qualified to detect falsehoods in evolution because government schools get millions in funding to find ever more clever ways to string evolution throughout all science. Our focus on evolution is calculated; it is neither natural nor proportionate. Creation Science expert and evangelist Dr. Kent Hovind stated, "Evolution is a carefully protected state religion" (Kent Hovind, Creation Seminar Series, see drdino.com). In the Cold War space race, the US sought to rival the communist Soviet science program, so they secured funding to incorporate more evolution theory into all science curricula. A good doctor will tell you that you don't need to be trained in evolution to be a good doctor, and this focus on evolution in our science curricula hasn't helped us make any progress.

Creationism is religion! So is evolution.



The supernatural evil cancer of evolution is creeping into all fields of study. It first emerged, a term they often use, from biology and into other sciences. Then, the social sciences took up the idea. Then everyone else. Bill Gates' "Big History" project is designed to incorporate 'science' (meaning evolution) into the history curriculum. Rather than just discussing the Mayflower, for example, they will often go off on a tangent about how the wood used to build that ship had ancient origins, which supposedly came from the Big Bang 14 billion years ago. Well has it been said that America is getting dumber every day!



For those who choose to believe in God and his messengers, there is bright hope for true understanding. Joseph Smith taught, “[When we understand the character of God, and know how to come to Him, he begins to unfold the heavens to us, and to tell us all about it. When we are ready to come to him, he is ready to come to us.](#)” (History of the Church, 6:308).

They call for teaching evolution ‘[bathed in the light of the gospel.](#)’ It’s sort of hard to teach that man evolved over millions of years, and then to teach that Adam was the first man. It’s hard to teach from textbooks that completely deny a worldwide flood, then to teach from the bible that there was a worldwide flood. It is challenging to teach that the Earth is billions of years old with no end in sight, and then to teach that the Earth was created in 7 days, after which it would have a 7000-year temporal lifespan. In short, it’s challenging

to teach secular and spiritual subjects as if they are completely separate from each other. It is not God's will for us to make such separations (D&C 29:34; 88:118), much less negations of scriptural truths.



CONCERNED WITH RISING SECULARITY?

On page 35, the LTSR authors state a concern and proposed solution as follows: [We are] concerned with the rising secularism in the youth. We suggest that the solution is to endow your children (and yourself) with the truth, with the real science and, if needed, seeking and offering ways to reconcile science with what we believe.” Again, here they declare any science which isn’t pro-evolution as not being the “real science,” and they equate evolution with “the truth.” And boy are they right, there will be lots of reconciling to be done, because the truth of evolution and the truth of God are two very different things. Of course, there is only one truth, and it’s not evolution.



Their message is inherently secular, a blending of secular and religious ideas. It's just the type of merger that will get us into serious trouble. It is secular when we view biblical events as just allegories that didn't really happen. It is secular when we view scriptures about the creation as just opinions which should be discarded when 'science' says otherwise (remember their claim of scriptural days of creation being out of order, for example). These fluid non-literal interpretations of scripture are the key components of secularism. If the Lord has not specifically declared through His prophets that a passage is to be understood allegorically, as was the case with the creation of Adam and Eve from the dust, then it remains our duty to accept the Scriptures just as they are read.

As we embrace secularism to whatever degree, we are led to the elimination of religion. The world views religion as an outdated crutch that we are growing out of, but the lens of the restored gospel assures us that religion is the standard of truth to which all things must align or fail. We know that revelations from God take preeminence over the theories of men.

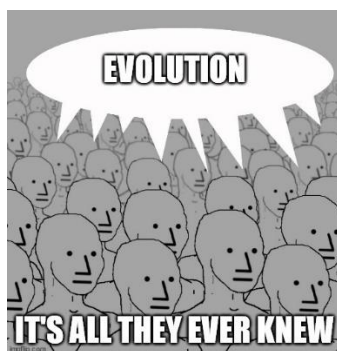


Questioning Our Culture of Truth Seeking

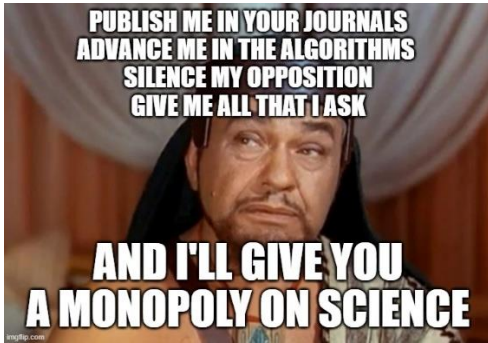
On page 46 the LTSR authors say, “We sometimes set up a culture that demands that we “know” the truth of all things.” But scripture instructs us to seek this culture: Moroni 10:5 reads, “**And by the power of the Holy Ghost ye may know the truth of all things.**” Should we join with an army of today’s philosophers in casting doubt on the reality of revelation and God’s will for us to experience such? The function of revelation is that it makes it possible for us to no longer be deceived by the philosophies of men (James 1:6). As Alma taught, “**...Do ye not suppose**



that **I know** of these things myself? Behold, I testify unto you that I do know that these things whereof I have spoken are true..." (Alma 5:45). And as Christ taught, "**ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.**" (John 8:32). Many prophets have declared a knowledge of God and His ways, not just a belief. Joseph Smith assured the saints that the knowledge he had was available to all: "**God hath not revealed anything to Joseph, but what He will make known unto the Twelve, and even the least Saint may know all things as fast as he is able to bear them.**" *History of the Church*, 3:380.



Beware Uninspired Scientists: Prophetic Denunciation of Darwin



Here are a few of Darwin's uninspired views on religion. He says:

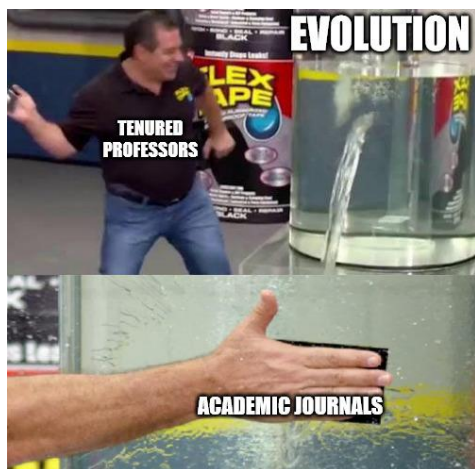
"Science has nothing to do with Christ, except insofar as the habit of scientific research makes a man cautious in admitting evidence. For myself, I do not believe that there ever has been any revelation. As for a future life, every man must judge for himself between conflicting vague probabilities."

"During these two years I was led to think much about religion. Whilst on board the Beagle I was quite orthodox, & I remember being heartily laughed at by several of the officers (though themselves orthodox) for quoting the Bible as an unanswerable authority on some point of morality. I suppose it was the novelty of the argument that amused them. But I had gradually come, by this

time, to see that the Old Testament from its manifestly false history of the world, with the Tower of Babel, rainbow as a sign, etc., etc., and from its attributing to God the feelings of a revengeful tyrant, was no more to be trusted than the sacred books of the Hindoos, or the beliefs of any barbarian."

"I am sorry to have to inform you that I do not believe in the Bible as a divine revelation, & therefore not in Jesus Christ as the Son of God."

What exactly from these statements would make anyone believe that Darwin is a man of God and, therefore, would be a great instrument in bringing forth this marvelous revelation that we all came from nothing and eventually evolved from monkeys to become humans? For a man who does not believe in revelation, why would God use him as a vessel to reveal something as important as the origin of the human race, His sons and daughters?



President Benson identified 5 specific antichrists of our day, including Sigmund Freud, Charles Darwin, Karl Marx, John Keyes, and John Dewey. Take a look:

“As a watchman on the tower, I feel to warn you that one of the chief means of misleading our youth and destroying the family unit is our educational institutions. President Joseph F. Smith referred to false educational ideas as one of the three threatening dangers among our Church members. There is more than one reason why the Church is advising our youth to attend colleges close to their homes where institutes of religion are available. It gives the parents the opportunity to stay close to their children; and if they have become alert and informed as President McKay admonished us last year, these parents can help expose some of the deceptions of men like Sigmund Freud, Charles **Darwin**, John Dewey, Karl Marx, John

Keynes, and others. Today there are much worse things that can happen to a child than not getting a full college education. In fact, some of the worst things have happened to our children while attending colleges led by administrators who wink at subversion and amorality.” (Ezra Taft Benson, *Strengthening the Family*, Conference Report, October 1970, pp. 21-25, also quoted in *The Teachings of Ezra Taft Benson*, 307.) (For more references in prophets exposing similar evil teachers in our day, see josephsmithfoundation.org/anti-christ.)

Notice how Benson was so concerned about the dangers of these teachings that he said it’s sometimes even better to not go to college at all.

President Benson wasn’t alone in rebuking Darwin. Brigham Young, one of the mighty leaders of the restored Church, similarly exposed Darwin. He said, “We have enough and to spare, at present in these mountains, of schools where young infidels are made because the teachers are so tender-footed that they dare not mention the principles of the gospel to their pupils, but have no hesitancy in introducing into the classroom the theories of Huxley, of Darwin, or of Miall . . . this course I am resolutely and **uncompromisingly opposed to**, and I hope to see the day when the doctrines of the gospel will be taught in all our schools, when the revelation of the Lord will be our texts, and our books will be written and manufactured by

ourselves and in our own midst. As a beginning in this direction I have endowed the Brigham Young Academy at Provo.” (Brigham Young, Letters of Brigham Young to His Sons, p. 200)

On page 45-46, the LTSR authors cite a good quote by President Uchtdorf: “I believe that our Father in Heaven is pleased with His children when they use their talents and mental facilities to discover truth. Over the centuries many wise men and women - through logic, reason, scientific inquiry, and, yes, through **inspiration** - have discovered truth. These discoveries have enriched mankind, improved our lives, and inspired joy, wonder, and awe.” (Uchtdorf, 2013 What is Truth, BYU Speeches)

Let’s talk about the importance of inspiration for scientists, the nature of revelation, and Satan’s counterfeits. We can’t separate the art from the artist, at least not entirely. Good fruit won’t come from a corrupt tree. Bill Clinton argued that the office of the US President didn’t have anything to do with the moral character of the office holder, but let’s compare that idea to the scriptures: “**And also trust no one to be your teacher nor your minister, except he be a man of God, walking in his ways and keeping his commandments.**” (Mosiah 23:14). And why can’t we trust them? Because they lie and are themselves tricked by the Devil as a result of their unfaithfulness!

The personal life of Charles Darwin is of great concern. Charles Darwin was cruel to animals as a child and continued in his reclusive and inhumane habits throughout his life toward his wife and others. There was tremendous conflict in his married life as his wife was very religious. The further he became entrenched in his theory of evolution, the more he hated life and could not find beauty in nature. He said in 1860, "the sight of a feather in a peacock's tail, whenever I gaze at it, makes me sick!" He was tormented by nature's continual witness of design. The theory of evolution poisoned Darwin because it was from an impure source.

Nephi spoke of how sinful man will lose the ability to hear God. He said, "...ye have heard his voice from time to time; and he hath spoken unto you in a still small voice, but ye were past feeling, that ye could not feel his words;..." (1 Ne. 17:45)

This very thing happened to Darwin.

Joseph Fielding Smith described, "It seems that Darwin

himself underwent the same experience. He lost his religion when he lost confidence in Paley's evidences. He says: "The old argument from design in Nature, as given by Paley, which formerly seemed to me so conclusive, fails, now that the law of natural selection



has been discovered. We can no longer argue that, for instance, the beautiful hinge of a bivalve shell must have been made by an intelligent being, like the hinge of a door by man." "At the present day," he continues, "the most usual argument for the existence of an intelligent God is drawn from the deep inward

conviction and feeling which are experienced by most persons."

Formerly he was led by feelings such as those just referred to, to the firm conviction of the existence of



God and of the immortality of the soul. The grandeur of the Brazillian forest, he says, used to inspire him with religious awe. "But now the grandest scenes would not cause any such convictions and feelings to arise in my mind. It may be truly said that I am like a man who has become color-blind." In another passage he mentions the fact that his love for poetry has gradually disappeared—a proof of the withering effect which continual scientific investigation may exert upon the soul!" (quoting from Introduction to Philosophy, by Dr. Friedrich Paulsen, pp. 159-160.) (Joseph Fielding Smith, Man: His Origin and Destiny, Ch. 4 The Doctrine of God)

More concerning elements of Darwin's personal life include his occultic ties. Darwin frequently attended seances with George Elliott. Darwin was intrigued by mysticism and was close friends with Max Muller who translated the Rig Vedas. Darwin was from a wealthy family and was funded by the Royal society to downplay monotheism and destroy Christianity (see The Genesis 6 Conspiracy p.516).

We must acknowledge that God's spirit of inspiration will hardly work with an immoral person. Good scientists get inspiration from God, and bad scientists get inspiration from the Devil. Let's not be shy about the reality of the Devil and his power to influence us. Jesus preached more about



hell and the Devil than any other biblical preacher. We must be awake to the horrifying possibilities of the Devil to overtake anyone who is not keeping God's law! He is a master deceiver and has even deceived the whole world (Rev. 12:9).

Isaac Newton was an inspired scientist who discovered truth by the influence of the spirit of God. Consider what he said: "All my discoveries have been made in answer to prayer." He also said, "I believe the more I study science, the more I believe in God." And finally,

“A man may imagine things that are false, but he can only understand things that are true.” Newton’s Christian piety was well known to all, and his contributions to scientific understanding are unparalleled.



Image: Wiki Commons

Silly Claims Concerning Korihor & Satan

On pages 27-28, the LTSR authors bring up the naturalist (essentially evolutionist) antichrist Korihor. Korihor says, ‘Hey, you can’t prove God exists.’ Alma says, ‘everything proves God exists’ (as in, earth and the universe didn’t just pop into being). The authors claim that we don’t have scientific evidence for or against God, which isn’t correct because ALL of nature is proof for God. Korihor demands a sign, which, of

course, isn't the right way to get faith in God; everyone agrees on that.

However, Alma is saying that Korihor is flat wrong when he claims there is no evidence for God in nature. Korihor taught naturalistic theories, that there is no convincing evidence from nature of a Supreme Creator. There are remarkable similarities between Korihor's teachings and those of today's Darwinian evolutionists. It's no wonder Ezra Taft Benson specifically called Darwin an anti-Christ! ([Ezra Taft Benson, *Strengthening the Family*, Conference Report, October 1970, pp. 21-25, also quoted in The Teachings of Ezra Taft Benson, 307.](#)) (quoted elsewhere in this book)

SATAN IS ANTI-EVOLUTION?

Apparently, Satan is anti-evolution. The LTSR authors claim on page 35: “You can almost think of educating ourselves and our children [about evolution] as a vaccination against Satan’s attempts to destroy our faith... He [Satan] seeks to infuse doubt into our minds when we encounter something in science [evolution] that **seems to** disagree with what we thought about the world.”



While the Let's Talk authors share their opinion about those who teach against evolution being Satanic, let's fact-check that with what the prophets have taught. Consider this teaching from Joseph Fielding Smith, which he wrote while serving as president of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles: **"It has been truthfully said that organic evolution is Satan's chief weapon in this dispensation in his attempt to destroy the divine mission of Jesus Christ. It is a contemptible plot against faith in God and to destroy the effective belief in the divine atonement of our Redeemer through which men may be saved from their sins and find place in the Kingdom of God. There is not and cannot be, any compromise between the Gospel of Jesus Christ and the theories of evolution. Were evolution true, there could be no remission of sin. In fact there could be no sin."** (Joseph Fielding Smith, *Man: His Origin & Destiny*, Ch. 8 The Hypothesis of Organic Evolution pt.2)

On page 42, the LTSR authors denounce dogmatism (a stubborn insistence on being right), yet throughout the whole book they insist that evolution must be true.

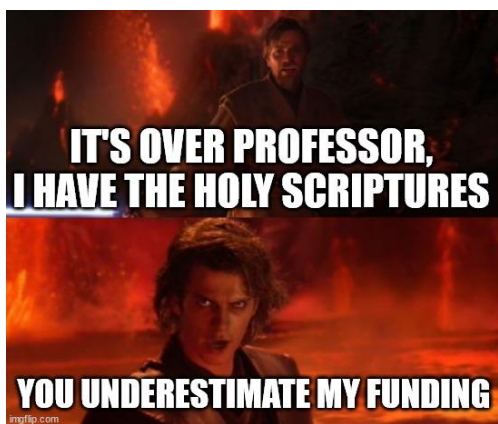
They go so far as to cite D&C 50:3, “And also Satan hath sought to deceive you, that he might overthrow you.”

These claims are so far out that I don’t even have to respond to them.

Cursed Educational Establishment Pushing Deceptive ‘Science’

Of course there are some things which appear to be evidences for evolution; the Devil isn’t stupid, he has conjured up many falsehoods, to deceive the very elect (see JSM 1:22). Joseph F. Smith warned us against sophisticated deception: “Let it not be forgotten that the evil one has great power in the earth, and that by every possible means he seeks to darken the minds of men, and then offers them **falsehood and deception in the guise of truth**. Satan is a **skilful imitator**, and as genuine gospel truth is given the world in ever-increasing abundance, so he spreads the counterfeit coin of false doctrine. Beware of his spurious currency, it will purchase for you nothing but disappointment, misery and spiritual death. The ‘**father of lies**’ he has been called, and such an adept has he become, through the ages of practice in his nefarious work, that were it

possible he would deceive the very elect” (Gospel Doctrine, 5th ed. [1939], 376).



Thankfully God has inspired many scientists to detect and record the plethora of scientific issues in the claims of evolution theory. A good resource to start learning these things is creationism.org, where many resources are shared free to the public as a token of good will.



Consider the Lord's displeasure with the educational establishment of our times as expressed in these verses:

2 Ne. 28:9: “**9** Yea, and there shall be many which shall teach after this manner, false and vain and foolish doctrines, and shall be puffed up in their hearts, and shall seek deep to hide their counsels from the Lord; and their works shall be in the dark.”

2 Ne. 28:11-12: “**11** Yea, they have all gone out of the way; they have become corrupted. **12** Because of pride, and because of **false teachers**, and false doctrine, their churches have become corrupted, and their churches are lifted up; because of pride they are puffed up.”

2 Ne. 28:14-15: “**14** They wear stiff necks and high heads; yea, and because of pride, and wickedness, and abominations, and whoredoms, they have all gone astray save it be a few, who are the humble followers of Christ; nevertheless, they are led, that in **many instances they do err because they are taught by the precepts of men**. **15** O the wise, and the learned, and the rich, that are puffed up in the pride of their hearts, and all those who **preach false doctrines**, and all those who commit whoredoms, and pervert the right way of the Lord, wo, wo, wo be unto them, saith the Lord God Almighty, for they shall be thrust down to hell!”

ACADEMIC FRAUD DENIAL:

In a world where academic fraud runs wild, how are the saints so dismissive of the entire problem? Have they not read the Book of Mormon which assures us that our times will be fraught with secret combinations? Here are just a few references every latter-day saint should be familiar with:

Ether 11:22: “And they did reject all the words of the prophets, because of their secret society and wicked abominations.”

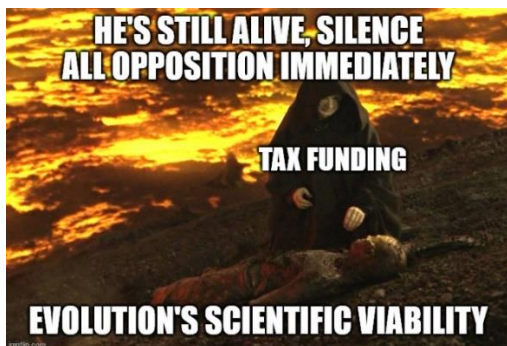
2 Ne. 9:9: “...the father of lies...stirreth up the children of men unto secret combinations...”

2 Ne. 10:15: “...I must needs destroy the secret works of darkness...”

Alma 37:30: “...the judgments of God did come upon these workers of darkness and secret combinations.”

Helaman 2:13 “And behold, in the end of this book ye shall see that this Gadianton did prove the overthrow, yea, almost the entire destruction of the people of Nephi.”

Ether 8:22: “And whatsoever nation shall uphold such secret combinations, to get power and gain, until they shall spread over the nation, behold, they shall be destroyed.”



Faith Until Science?

On page 46 the LTSR authors claim, “Lastly, if learning scientific theories puts your faith in jeopardy, choose your faith. Choose your **faith until you can better understand the science** (or until science can provide better explanations).”

This passage appears to say, ‘If you’re still too ignorant to accept evolution, okay. But eventually you’ll have to accept it.’ So do we choose our faith “**until**” we understand science? At that point, we will then choose science instead of faith?

The whole theme of the LDS evolutionists is that we need to adopt an evolutionary worldview and adjust our religious thinking to



accommodate it. Many say, ‘we know x because of science, and we believe y because of religion.’ Perhaps we should flip this around and put our highest trust in religion. We could say, ‘we know x because of religion, and we believe y because of science.’

Some think disbelief in evolution is because of poor teaching. No matter how well they teach evolution, many people will reject it on moral, scriptural, logical, rational, natural, and scientific grounds. We’ve all



heard people blame the failure of bogus systems, like socialism and communism, on incorrect delivery methods. Let’s admit that some systems/theories don’t

work no matter how well you market them!

Faith isn’t something that goes away when you learn how things work. Faith is trust in a process you have proven to be true, which you can rely on to accomplish future works. God works by faith, it is eternal. As Joseph Smith taught in the Lectures on Faith, “**13 As we receive all temporal blessings by faith, so we, in like manner, receive all spiritual blessings.—But faith is not only the principle of action, but of power, also, in all intelligent beings, whether in heaven, or on earth. Thus says the author of the epistle to the Hebrews, 11:3: 14 Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God: so that**

things which are seen were not made of things which do appear. 15 By this we understand that the principle of power, which **existed in the bosom of God**, by which the worlds were framed, was faith; and that it is by reason of this principle of power, existing in the Deity that **all created things exist—so that all things in heaven, on earth, or under the earth, exist by reason of faith, as it existed in him.** 16



Had it not been for the principle of faith the worlds would never have been framed, neither would man have been formed of the dust—it is **the principle by which Jehovah works, and through which he exercises power over all temporal**, as well as eternal things. Take this principle or attribute, (for it is an attribute) from the Deity and he would cease to exist.” ([Appendix 1: First Theological Lecture on Faith, circa January–May 1835, Page 1](https://www.josephsmithpapers.org/appendix-1-first-theological-lecture-on-faith-circa-january-may-1835-page-1) ([josephsmithpapers.org](https://www.josephsmithpapers.org)))

Rejection of Creation Truth Foretold

2 Ne. 1:10 warns us against rejecting the fullness of the message of the gospel, including what has been revealed about the creation: “...**the time cometh that they shall dwindle in unbelief**, after they have received so great blessings from the hand of the

Lord—having a **knowledge of the creation** of the earth, and all men, knowing the great and marvelous works of the Lord from the creation of the world...”

Evolution brings us to reject the Creation and the Fall. Perhaps we should rather call the Creation the Mistake, and the Fall the Climb. When we reject these foundational Christian doctrines, our faith is in great jeopardy. Elder McConkie called the Creation Fall and Atonement the three pillars of God’s plan. The Devil’s plan is the Nothing (Big Bang), the Survival of the fittest, and the Separation from God.

<u>God’s Plan</u>	<u>Devil’s Plan</u>
The creation by God.	The explosion of nothing.
The fall from God.	The climb from slime.
The atonement/returning to God.	Death. End of existence.

3 Ne. 16:10 bears a similar message, warning that if we persist in rejecting the fullness of the gospel, it will be withdrawn: **“And thus commandeth the Father that I should say unto you: At that day when the Gentiles shall sin against my gospel, and shall reject the fulness of my gospel, and shall be lifted up in the pride of their hearts above all nations, and above all the people of the whole earth, and shall be filled with all manner of lyings, and of deceits, and of mischiefs, and all manner**

of hypocrisy, and murders, and priestcrafts, and whoredoms, and of secret abominations; and if they shall do all those things, and shall reject the fulness of my gospel, behold, saith the Father, I will bring the fulness of my gospel from among them.”

So, have we rejected the fullness? Today, I fear we are approaching this limit in our persistence in the church to accept a theory that is repeatedly denounced in Scripture, and which a myriad of prophets have specifically warned against. It is well known among church education teachers and informed protestants that Latter-day Saints today don’t know nearly as much doctrine as they did 50 years ago. We no longer know our religion.

Are our teachers polluting the holy Church of God, as Mormon foresaw? He said, “**O ye pollutions, ye hypocrites, ye teachers, who sell yourselves for that which will canker, why have ye polluted the holy church of God? Why are ye ashamed to take upon you the name of Christ? Why do ye not think that greater is the value of an endless happiness than that misery which never dies—because of the praise of the world?**” (Mormon 8:38)

Note that the holy church of God surely refers directly to the restored Church. Also note that taking upon us the name of Christ means enduring the shame of the world for standing by what Christ has taught through His prophets. It’s more than merely identifying as a Christian or as a member of Christ’s restored Church.

Let's all take accountability for where we are and commit to a revival of faith in the fullness of the restored gospel. Let's fulfill the prophecy of a generation that will know their religion better, not worse, than any past generation. This is our destiny. Will we rise to the challenge, or will we settle for a watered-down version of the truth? Will we take the worldly ways rather than God's ways, like ancient Israel, who demanded a king, despite the prophet's warnings? They got what they asked for, and so will we.



Both Wrong: Mainstream Science & Mainstream Religion

Is evolution the best thinking, and therefore what should be taught at BYU? Dennis Isaacson shares the following:

"There's true religion and true science, and neither embraces either evolution or a Big Bang, which are both unscriptural. Here's where other Christian faiths get the creation account wrong. They believe that Moses' account describes God creating the universe in six days. They teach that the **universe** was created in an instant out of nothing.

The prophet Joseph Smith translated the Bible only a few months after completing the translation of the Book of Mormon. He began at the creation account in Genesis, and he restored many important and lost key teachings. One of these is that in the creation account, Moses was only given a vision of the creation of this earth and its vicinity (sun and moon). The restored scripture reads: "And now, Moses, my son, I will speak unto thee concerning this earth upon which thou standest; and thou shalt write the things which I shall speak." (Moses 1:40)

He was not shown anything related to the creation of the **universe**. General Christians make the mistake of believing that the Lord created the **universe** itself in

only 7 days or 7,000 years. This is equivalent to saying that the universe was created instantaneously out of nothing. Sound familiar? Mainstream religious theories are complete counterfeits because they both teach that the universe was created in an instant out of nothing. Both science and religion have this wrong.

Like Nate, I also had several professors who elevated the philosophies of men above the word of God and his prophets. They didn't mind reorganizing the doctrines of the gospel to fit what they had accepted from the counterfeits of science. They liked to dishonestly claim that they saw no discrepancies between science and religion. Unfortunately, many of the students whom they had influenced were more honest than the teachers, and when the students saw the glaring differences between the two, many of them left the church. Many of these unfaithful teachers have already had their minds darkened in these areas and are not far from leaving the church themselves.

Organic Evolution is a counterfeit to divine creation. In fact, it's such a complete counterfeit that scientists fell into the same error that general Christians did when citing the creation account of Genesis, which is to misread this as applying to the creation of the universe.

Scientists say the same thing, with the exception that they believe all matter in the universe was compacted into a size much smaller than the diameter of an atom. A size of 10^{-36} is postulated, which is smaller than the smallest atom, 10^{-10} . The big bang is a magic theory where the laws of known physics do not really apply until we get close to having a stable universe that we see through our telescopes, but it takes a huge leap

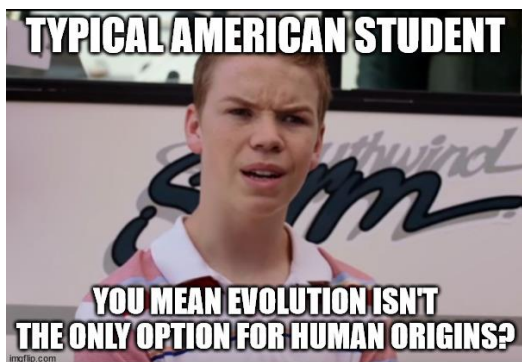
of faith to finally arrive here. How silly that "men of science" would step so far out of observed and verifiable science as to even suggest such a thing. But they were going for a complete counterfeit of religious belief, and they had to match what was being preached.

Abraham was also given a vision of the creation, but in addition, he was also allowed to view the order of stars that leads right up to Kolob, which is the star that God's celestialized planet orbits. We are told that when this Earth life is over, our earth will likewise be celestialized for those of us who inherit a celestial glory. How preposterous it is for science to tell us that the universe sprang from a Big Bang and will experience a corresponding Big Crunch.

I have no problem stating that I do not believe our God created the universe. We don't know what portion that he has created, but we do know from the teachings of the prophet Joseph Smith that our Heavenly Father has a Father, who also has a Father, and so on. We also know that this earth will become a celestialized planet and will host all of those here who qualify through the Atonement of Jesus Christ for the Celestial Kingdom. So why do we have a problem believing that multiple righteous Gods can share in the continuous growth and organization of our universe?

The utter arrogance and narcissism of men today is beyond anything the earth has ever experienced. Funny too, since science is so limited as to be completely unable to begin to tell us how Jesus performed any of his miracles. They can't even model them, yet much of

our society looks to science as their religion and false god.



Appendix: Doctrines Of The Creation

Theological Evidence that God Didn't Use Evolution



Color code of text in this book:

Red – Scriptures

Blue – Latter-day Prophets

Evolutionists avoid bringing up many verses of scripture about the Creation, even when they are addressing the subject of the interplay of science and religion. This is because the view of evolution is

dramatically different from anything described in sacred texts about creation. Perhaps dismissing revealed truths is the only way to reconcile evolution with a religious context. So, do you want the watered-down version of the restoration, or the whole enchilada?

Evolution really tries to spoil everyone's fun. Jonathan Wells points out that, before Darwin, science and religion generally coexisted well. But Darwin declared war on traditional Christianity. In this section of the book, I hope it will become abundantly clear how evolutionary science claims simply are at odds with scriptural teachings about the creation, particularly with scriptures and teachings of the restored Church of Jesus Christ.

Scriptures of the Restoration teach that the earth was created in six days or over a 6,000-year period, that the temporal lifespan of the Earth is 7000 years, and that death was not operative before the Fall. Perhaps we, too, have become “willingly ignorant” of the creation (2 Peter 3:5-7). The prophet Jacob taught that when teachers teach the theories of men rather than God's truth, “**their wisdom is foolishness.**” (2 Ne. 9:28)

Adam: First Man

Avowed atheist **William Craig** said that what evolution has done is **destroy the idea of a first man**. This is a clear recognition of the implication and intention of the theory of evolution. Let the saints beware: if you eliminate Adam and his fall, there is no need for Christ and his redemption. If there is no first Adam, there is no second Adam (Christ) **(1 Cor. 15:22, 45)**.

Joseph Fielding Smith recognized that the teaching of Adam as the first man was lost as a **part of the great apostasy**. In a Church priesthood manual, he said, “The doctrine that man is created in the image of God was also lost in the apostasy. The vision given to **Joseph Smith** restored the true doctrine in relation to this question. It is just as strange that man, in his spiritual darkness, would change this glorious doctrine and in the later times substitute for it **the abominable doctrine that man has ascended through countless ages from lower forms of life**, as it is that they could make of the Father and the Son and the Holy Ghost a God to be worshipped that is without substance, immaterial and therefore non-existent.” (Church History and Modern Revelation, Course Study for the Melchizedek Priesthood Quorums for the Year 1947 p.11)

Evolutionists attempt to circumvent the notion of Adam being the first man by assigning novel meanings to the terms "first" and "man." This is clearly wresting (trying to change the plain meaning of) scripture.

Moses 1:34 is clear that Adam was the first man:

"And the first man **of all men** have I called Adam, which is many."

D&C 84:16 also shows that Adam was the first man:

"And from Enoch to Abel, who was slain by the conspiracy of his brother, who received the priesthood by the commandments of God, by the hand of his father Adam, who was **the first man**—"

Remember that Eve is "**the mother of all living**" (Gen. 3:20), not just those who came after Adam.



(Get your "No Monkeys in My Family Tree t-shirt!")

<https://a.co/d/dNh8FqA>

(Another fun variation of a shirt like this could be
"Apes Belong in Trees, Not Genealogies!")



Joseph Fielding Smith taught that the revelation on Adam as the “First Flesh” indicates that there were no mortal creatures or death before him. He said, “Then what is meant by the “first flesh”? It is simple when you understand it. Adam was the first of all creatures to fall and become flesh, and flesh in this sense means mortality, and all through our scriptures the Lord speaks of this life as flesh, while we are here in the flesh, so Adam became the first flesh. **There was no other mortal creature before him, and there was no mortal death until he brought it . . .**” (Joseph Fielding Smith, *Seek Ye Earnestly* [Salt Lake City: Deseret Book Co., 1970], 281.)

President Harold B. Lee was asked about pre-Adamic people. “I was somewhat sorrowed recently to hear someone, a sister who comes from a church family, ask, “What about the pre-Adamic people?” Here was someone who I thought was fully grounded in the faith. I asked, “What about the **pre-Adamic people?**”

She replied, “Well, aren’t there evidences that people preceded the Adamic period of the earth?” I said, “Have you forgotten the scripture that says, ‘And I, the Lord God, formed man from the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul, the **first flesh upon the earth, the first man also....**’ ” (Moses 3:7) I asked, “Do you believe that?” She wondered about the creation because she had read the theories of the scientists, and the question that she was really asking was: **How do you reconcile science with religion?** The answer must be, **If science is not true, you cannot reconcile truth with error.**” (Harold B. Lee, “First Presidency Message: Find the Answers in the Scriptures,” Ensign, Dec. 1972, 2.)

Marion G. Romney summarized the doctrines against pre-Adamites as follows: “For many years I had an assignment from the First Presidency to serve on what was known as the Church Publications Committee. We were expected to read and pass upon material submitted for use in the study courses of our auxiliary organizations. In reading these materials my spirit was sometimes offended by the use of language which expressed the views of those who did not believe in the mission of Adam. I have reference to words and phrases such as “**primitive man,**” “**prehistoric man,**”

“before men learned to write,” and the like.

Sometimes these terms are used in ways which evidence a misunderstanding of the mission of Adam. The connotation of these terms, as used by unbelievers, is **out of harmony with our understanding** of the mission of Adam, as taught by such teachers as Enoch, Moses, and Nephi. Adam fell that men might be” (2 Ne. 2:25). There were **no pre-Adamic men in the line of Adam**. The Lord said that Adam was the first man (see Moses 1:34, Moses 3:7; D&C 84:16). The Lord also said that Adam was the first flesh (see Moses 3:7), which, as I understand it, means the first mortal on the earth. I understand from a statement made by Enoch, in the book of Moses, that there was **no death in the world before Adam** (see Moses 6:48; 2 Ne. 2:22). Enoch also said that a record of Adam was kept in a book which had been written under the tutelage of the Almighty himself...I am not a scientist. I do not profess to know much about what they know. My emphasis is on Jesus Christ, and him crucified, and the revealed principles of his gospel. **If, however, there are some things in the strata of the earth indicating there were men before Adam, then they were not the ancestors of Adam.** And we should avoid using language and ideas that would cause confusion on this matter. (President Marion G Romney, <https://www.lds.org/ensign/1980/09/records-of-great-worth?lang=eng>)



Of course, I don't believe there are strata indicating creatures before Adam, that would contradict an entire line of prophetic teachings on there being no death upon the whole face of the earth before the fall.

As for the morality of this first man, Adam, refer to the section of this book on evolution's impact on testimony, **Alma 41**, and so on.

The long lifespan of the ancient patriarchs, reaching into their 900s, is another contentious subject for evolutionists, who believe we are evolving, not regressing.

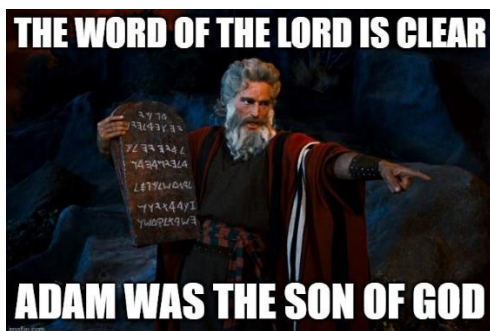
Elder Joseph Fielding Smith addressed claims in the Church about pre-Adamic people in 1930. He said, **“Even in the Church there are a scattered few who are now advocating and contending that this earth was**

peopled with a race—perhaps many races—long before the days of Adam. These men desire, of course, to square the teachings in the Bible with the teachings of modern science and philosophy in regard to the age of the earth and life on it. If you hear any one talking this way, **you may answer** them by saying that **the doctrine of "pre-Adamites" is not a doctrine of the Church**, and is not advocated nor countenanced by the Church. **There is no warrant in the scriptures, not an authentic word, to sustain it.**” (p.147 October 1930 issue of The Utah Genealogical and Historical Magazine. https://www.dialoguejournal.com/wp-content/uploads/sbi/articles/Dialogue_V15N01_81.pdf)



Adam: Literal Progeny of God (Not Hominid)

According to Darwin, “It is only...arrogance which made our forefathers declare that they were descended from...gods.” (The Descent of Man, pp. 31-32) Make no mistake, these worldviews are diametrically opposed.

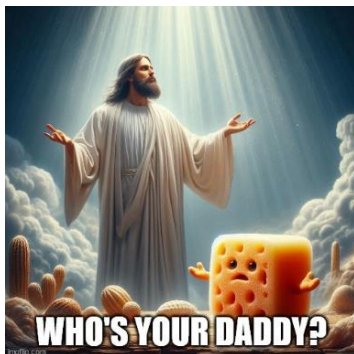


Genesis 1:27 shows that we look like God, just another evidence that God is the real Father of the human race (not monkeys): “So God created man in his *own* image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.”

Acts 17:29 shows that we are OFFSPRING of God, and specifically makes the point that this is how we know God isn’t a strange thing, but is an actual person like us: “Forasmuch then as we are the offspring of God, we ought not to think that the Godhead is like unto gold, or silver, or stone, graven by art and man’s

device.”

So who's your daddy? The sponge, or the God? Did you originate from on high, or from beneath?



When the 1st Presidency statements refer to “[our race](#),” they clearly mean the human race. They clearly show that the origins of all humans are not from lower life forms, yet that is exactly what the theory of evolution is founded upon! You can’t have a common ancestor between humans, animals, and plant life if the human race is the “first man of all men!” There are no semi-humans who lived before Adam. The actual gap between man and all other known species is colossal, and conjecture based on supposed transitional fossils doesn’t change that.

Evolutionists play word games and claim that the humanoids before Adam weren’t human, thereby insisting that those could have still been Adam’s parents. But think about it: Who was Adam’s dad?

Was Adam's father an 'almost human,' or was it God Himself, as scripture and modern prophets have boldly declared? Remember the plain and precious teaching of the bible in Luke 3:38, "**Which was *the son of Enos, which was *the son of Seth, which was *the son of Adam, which was *the son of God.******" So, is a hominid the God of the Christian evolutionists? Because whoever sired Adam is God. Certainly, a lower lifeform hominid is not the God of the bible or the restoration.

When Christians play word games and claim that the first man can be Adam while allowing for Adam's parents to be monkey-men, I'm reminded of Alma's plea, "**O blessed God, have mercy on this people!**" (Alma 19:29) Why have we rejected God's words, His precious truths, in exchange for the teachings of the Gentiles?

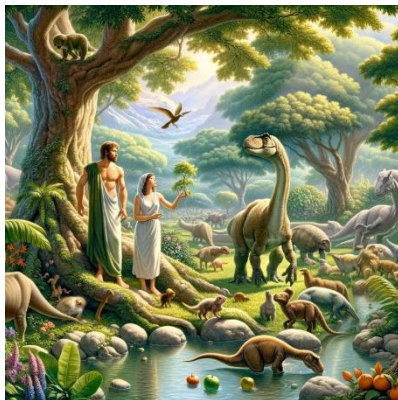
Consider these prophetic teachings on Adam's biological dad being God:

Brigham Young: "Mankind are here because they are offspring of parents (Adam and Eve) who were first **brought here from another planet**, and power was given them to propagate their species, and they (were) commanded to multiply and replenish the earth...(God) **created man as we create our children; for there is no other process of creation in heaven, on the earth, in the earth, or under the earth,**

or in all the eternities, that is, that (was), or that ever will be... **We are flesh of (God's) flesh**, (and) bone of his bone" (Journal of Discourses 11:122; 9:283, October 1859).



As you can see, President Young taught that Adam was sired by God, and at some point brought to this earth. He teaches that the making of Adam from the dust is an allegory to protect the sacred truth many weren't ready to receive. Others such as Joseph Fielding Smith believed that Adam was sired by God the Father and Mother on this very sphere. A minority of saints still maintain that Adam was created from the dust directly by God, but all of these scenarios are very different from millions of years of slow evolutionary growth from monster into man.



Many are surprised to learn that God is a family man, that the Earth is patterned after heaven. This is a core message of the restoration. The great mystery is unraveled. God is an exalted man (Moses 6:57: “**Man of Holiness is his name**” and D&C 130:1: “**he is a man like ourselves. 2 And that same sociality** which exists among us here will **exist among us there**” and D&C 130:3: “**the idea that the Father and the Son dwell in a man’s heart is an old sectarian notion, and is false.**” And D&C 130:22: “**The Father has a body of flesh and bones as tangible as man’s**” and Joseph Smith: “**God Himself was once as we are now, and is an exalted man, and sits enthroned in yonder heavens! That is the great secret. If the veil were rent today, and ... if you were to see Him today, you would see Him like a man in form—like yourselves in all the person, image, and very form as a man.**” *Teachings of Presidents of the Church: Joseph Smith* (2007), 40).

This exalted man lives on a planet somewhere in time and space.

He still experiences time, it's just different time (Abraham 3:4: “**This is the reckoning of the Lord’s time, according to the reckoning of Kolob.**”) He still lives in space. (Abe. 3:9: “one planet above another, until thou come nigh unto Kolob, which Kolob is after the reckoning of the **Lord’s time**; which Kolob is set **nigh unto the throne of God,**”) (See also D&C 130:7: “they reside in the **presence of God, on a globe...**”)

He has a body. (D&C 130:22: “The Father has a body of flesh and bones as tangible as man’s; the Son also;”)

He has a wife. (D&C 131:1-2: “1 In the celestial glory there are three heavens or degrees; 2 And in order to obtain the highest, a man must enter into this order of the priesthood [meaning the new and everlasting covenant of marriage];”)

He has children. (this point should be obvious, but here is one reference: D&C 130:2: “that **same sociality which exists among us here will exist among us there.**” See also 1 Cor. 11:11, & Gen. 1:28 on the righteousness of procreation.)

Amen! No wonder the restored Church of Jesus Christ is so focused on family life! Our opportunity to build families in this life is a key part of the test of life, to demonstrate whether we will be worthy of continuing

to do so, like God Himself, in the world to come. It has been taught that in the restored Church that the only people God rules over are his children. (see for example, 1 Nephi 17:36: “Behold, the Lord hath created the earth that it should be inhabited; and he hath created his children that they should possess it.”)

Next here is Joseph F. Smith preaching that Adam was born of woman into this world: “...Man was born of woman; Christ the Savior was born of woman; and God the Father was born of woman. Adam, our earthly parent, was also born of woman into this world, the same as Jesus and you and I...” (Pres. Joseph F. Smith, Deseret News, Section 3, p. 7, 27 December 1913).

Faithful Joseph Smith scholar Hyrum Andrus taught that “Joseph Smith is reported...to have taught that **God was the great head of human procreation** – was really and truly the **Father of both our spirits and our (physical) bodies**” (Hyrum Andrus, ‘God, Man, and the Universe,’ pp. 351-354).

As it says in the line of the First Presidency statement, which the authors didn’t include in their quotation in the book, man is “the direct and lineal offspring of Deity.” Lineal? Ponder the meaning of that word. That is genealogical language. It means the same way that your dad is your direct dad, God is Adam’s direct dad. Can we be any clearer? If Luke 3:38, which outlines the genealogy leading up to Adam, is not spiritual, why

should we claim that the step where it says Adam's father is God is suddenly spiritual? The context of the list being physical parentage insists that Adam's physical father is God.

The Latter-Day Saints are endowed with the understanding that God has a tangible body (D&C 130:22), He is married to a woman (D&C 130:2; etc.), that procreation is divine when used properly (1 Cor. 11:11, Gen. 1:28), and that "children are an heritage from the Lord" (Psalm 127:3-5). Can you put the pieces of this puzzle together? The Latter-Day Saints, armed with these truths, are in a better position to refute evolution as the origin of man than any other Christian denomination. Yet somehow, most Christians now are far ahead of the Latter-day Saints in the fight against evolution. Have we traded pure doctrine for worldly approval and university accreditation? The saints once led the fight against evolution with more power and simple logic than any other faith could offer, but not anymore. Now it's just watered-down unexplainable statements that somehow God is our Father, and evolution, sure, why not!

The Let's Talk Science book, which advocates for the acceptance of evolution in the Church, represents a larger movement within the Church to undermine our foundational understanding of restored truth and replace it with a more politically correct version of faith. Let us instead turn to God in a mighty revival

and bravely stand again to reject these philosophies of men.



So, how did life get to Earth in the first place? Revelation teaches us that God brought animals to this world. You might think of it in a similar way to how Noah brought animals to the new land after the flood. In the beginning, God planted seeds and placed animals on the Earth. We learn this in the temple. We learn it in Genesis. We learn it everywhere. We learn in genetics that one species cannot create another. Simple truths are in great contrast to the complexities of evolution. Many Protestant religions have adopted some of these truths. How did man arrive? He was either brought here or procreated here.

Joseph Fielding Smith emphasized the scriptural doctrine of life being transplanted to this Earth from elsewhere. He said, **“Why not the shorter route and transplant them from another earth as we are**

taught in the scriptures? Surely to any reasonable mind, the Lord would not have to start with an amoeba, pass through the stage of lower fish to higher fish to reptiles to apes and to man!” (Joseph Fielding Smith, *Man: His Origin & Destiny*, Ch. 12 Man the Offspring of God)

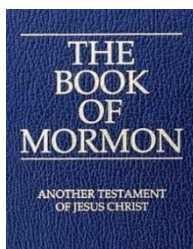
Elder Nelson found 55 verses attesting man’s divine creation. He said, “We are children of God, created by him and formed in his image. Recently I studied the scriptures simply to find how many times they testify of the divine creation of man. Looking up references that referred either to *create* or *form* (or their derivatives) with either *man*, *men*, *male*, or *female* in the same verse, I found that there are at least fifty-five verses of scripture that attest to our divine creation (**Genesis 1:27; 2:7, 8**; 5:1, 2; 6:7; Deuteronomy 4:32; Isaiah 45:12; Malachi 2:10; Mark 10:6; Romans 9:20; Ephesians 3:9; Colossians 3:10; 2 Nephi 1:10; 2:15; 9:6; 29:7; Jacob 4:9; Mosiah 4:2, 9; 7:27; Alma 1:4; 18:32, 34, 36; 22:12, 13; Mormon 9:12, 17; **Ether 1:3; 3:15, 16**; Moroni 10:3; **D&C 20:18; 29:30, 34; 77:2; 77:12; 93:29; Moses 1:8; 2:27; 3:5, 7, 8, 9; 6:8, 9; 7:32; 8:26; Abraham 4:26, 27; 5:7, 8, 14, 16**).” (*The Magnificence of Man*, March 29 1987, BYU Devotional, <https://speeches.byu.edu/talks/russell-m-nelson/magnificence-man/>)

No Death Before The Fall; Fall Also Affected Animal & Plant Life

Evolutionists claim that the paradisaical state was before the creation and was merely the pre-mortal spirit realm.

But the doctrine is clear: All the physical creation was performed, then when Adam ate the fruit, the entirety of creation fell into the condition of mortal flesh. The Bible Dictionary entry on the Fall of Adam explains that the fall was a literal historic event: “[Latter-day revelation supports the biblical account of the fall, showing that it was a historical event that literally occurred in the history of man.](#)” Not so for the evolutionists, they insist that Adam’s fall is merely an allegory for coming to earth.

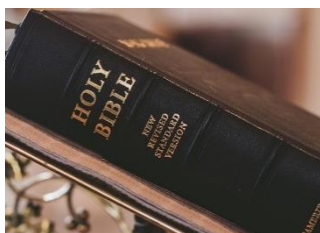
President Benson taught, “[the Book of Mormon exposes the enemies of Christ \[and\] confounds false doctrines](#)” (Teachings of Presidents of the Church: Ezra Taft Benson [2014], 132).



Here is a key passage from the Book of Mormon against evolution, wherein the prophets Lehi teaches about the impossibility of death and birth before the fall of Adam: **“22 And now, behold, if Adam had not transgressed he would not have fallen, but he would have remained in the garden of Eden. And all things which were created must have remained in the same state in which they were after they were created; and they must have remained forever, and had no end. 23 And they would have had no children; wherefore they would have remained in a state of innocence, having no joy, for they knew no misery; doing no good, for they knew no sin.”** (2 Ne. 2:22-23)

This scripture indicates that both Adam and other forms of life on Earth would have remained in their same created state if the fall hadn't occurred.

The Bible is not silent on this topic either.



Genesis 3:17-20 shows even plant life was impacted by the Fall of man, and that Eve was the mother of ALL living: **“17 And unto Adam he said, Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of**

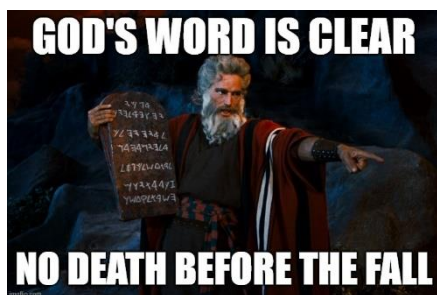
the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it: cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life; 18 Thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee; and thou shalt eat the herb of the field; 19 In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return. 20 And Adam called his wife's name Eve; because she was the mother of all living.”

Romans 8 :21-22 speaks of all of creation being cursed: “21 Because the creature itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God. 22 For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now.”

1 Corinthians 15:21-22, 26, and 45 speak of Adam as the first man, and as death entering the world at his Fall: “21 For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead. 22 For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive. 26 The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death. 45 And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam was made a quickening spirit.”

Romans 5: 12-14 also teachings these doctrines of

death originating from sin of man: “12 Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned: 13 (For until the law sin was in the world: but sin is not imputed when there is no law. 14 Nevertheless death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over them that had not sinned after the similitude of Adam's transgression, who is the figure of him that was to come.”



The 1st Presidency published in 1972 in “Selections from Answers to Gospel Questions” that **"The animals were all created and placed on the earth** preceding the coming of Adam and Eve. In fact the whole earth and the creatures on it were prepared for Adam and Eve before Adam's fall.... The earth and all upon it were ***not subject to death*** until Adam fell.... It was through the fall of Adam that death came into the world." (pp. 53-54, 111)

In the aforementioned “Selections from Answers to Gospel Questions,” at least 35 passages from “Man:

His Origin & Destiny” are suggested. Joseph Fielding Smith teaches against death before the fall at length in his Origins book (pp. 2, 50-51, 279-280, 328-329, 357-358, 362-365, 376-377, 381, 384, 387-396, 463-464).

Brigham Young echoed this teaching, that all life, not just human life, was cursed at the time of the fall: “**they transgressed a command of the Lord, and through that transgression sin came into the world. . . . Then came the curse upon the fruit, upon the vegetables, and upon our mother earth; and it came upon the creeping things, upon the grain in the field, the fish in the sea, and upon all things pertaining to this earth, through Man’s transgression.**” (Brigham Young, Journal of Discourses, 10:312)

Harold B. Lee also taught that the fall of Adam impacted the entire Earth, including animal and plant life: “**Besides the Fall having had to do with Adam and Eve, causing a change to come over them, that change affected all human nature, all of the natural creations, all of the creation of animals, plants—all kinds of life were changed. The earth itself became subject to death. . . . How it took place no one can explain, and anyone who would attempt to make an explanation would be going far beyond anything the Lord has told us. But a change was wrought over the whole face of the creation, which up to that time had not been subject to death.**” (Teachings of Presidents of the Church: Harold B. Lee, 2000, p. 20)

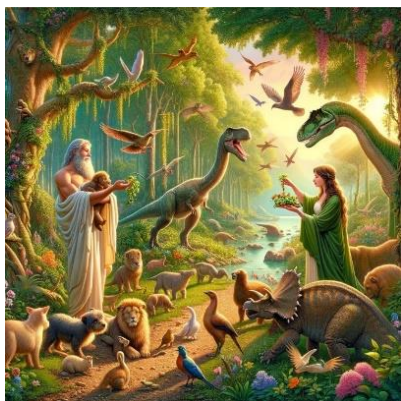


Bruce R. McConkie demonstrated that the creation before the fall was paradisaical, and not based in evolution. He said, **"There is no salvation in a system of religion that rejects the doctrine of the Fall or that assumes man is the end product of evolution and so was not subject to a fall.** True believers know that this earth and man and **all forms of life** were created in an Edenic, or **paradisiacal**, state in which there was no mortality, no procreation, **no death**. In that primeval day Adam and Eve were "in a state of innocence, having no joy, for they knew no misery; doing no good, for they knew no sin." (2 Ne. 2:23.) But in the providences of the Lord, "Adam fell that men might be; and men are, that they might have joy." (2 Ne. 2:25.) By his fall, Adam introduced temporal and spiritual death into the world and caused this earth life to become a probationary estate." (The Caravan Moves On by Elder Bruce R McConkie) (<https://www.lds.org/general-conference/1984/10/the->

caravan-moves-
on?lang=eng&query=evolution#watch=video)

John Taylor taught that before the Fall of Adam, animals all got along. **Does this sound like survival of the fittest?** Take a look: “Now, restoration signifies a bringing back, and must refer to something which existed before . . . when a prophet speaks of the restoration of all things, he means that all things have undergone a change, and are to be again restored to their primitive order, even as they first existed. . . . “First, then, **it becomes necessary for us to take a view of creation**, as it rolled in purity from the hand of its Creator; and if we can discover the true state in which it then existed, and **understand the changes that have taken place since, then we shall be able to understand what is to be restored. . . the beasts of the earth were all in perfect harmony with each other**; the lion ate straw like the ox—the wolf dwelt with the lamb—the leopard lay down with the kid—the cow and bear fed together, in the same pasture . . . all was peace and harmony, and nothing to hurt nor disturb, in all the holy mountain.. . . the earth yielded neither noxious weeds nor poisonous plants, nor useless thorns and thistles; indeed, every thing that grew was just calculated for the food of man’ beast, fowl, and creeping thing; and their food was all vegetable....This scene, which was so beautiful a little before, had now become the abode of sorrow and toil, of death and mourning: the earth groaning with its

production of accursed thorns and thistles; man and beast at enmity . . . **Soon man begins to persecute, hate, and murder his fellow; until at length the earth is filled with violence; all flesh becomes corrupt**, the powers of darkness prevail . . . But men have degenerated, and **greatly changed, as well as the earth.**" (John Taylor, The Government of God." [Liverpool: S. W. Richards, 1852], 105.)



Wilford Woodruff and other prophets also taught that all animals fell as part of the Fall of Adam, which I won't include here for brevity.

Joseph Fielding Smith taught that the Earth was peaceful, and there weren't millions of years of death before Adam: **"The Lord pronounced the earth good when it was finished. Everything upon its face was called good. There was no death in the earth before the fall of Adam. I do not care what the scientists say in regard to dinosaurs and other creatures upon the**

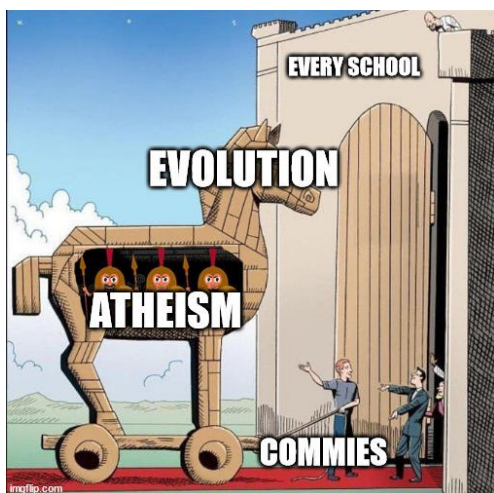
earth millions of years ago, that lived and died and fought and struggled for existence. When the earth was created and was declared good, peace was upon its face among all its creatures. Strife and wickedness were not found here, neither was there any corruption.” (Joseph Fielding Smith, *Doctrines of Salvation*, Volume 1, p. 108)

Joseph Fielding Smith taught that animal life also fell at Adam’s fall, and that before the fall, neither man nor animal had blood: “Thus when man fell the earth fell together with all forms of life on its face. Death entered; procreation began; the probationary experiences of mortality had their start. Before this fall there was neither mortality, nor birth, nor death, nor — for that matter — did Adam so much as have blood in his veins (and the same would be true for other forms of life), for blood is an element pertaining only to mortality.” (Joseph Fielding Smith, *Man: His Origin and Destiny*, pp. 362-365; *Doctrines of Salvation*, vol. 1, pp. 76-77)

Spencer W. Kimball expounded upon this concept, that finer substance than blood was in man’s body before the fall: “As in Adam all die, so in Christ shall all be made alive. Adam and Eve transgressed a law and were responsible for a change that came to all their posterity, that of mortality. Could it have been the different food which made the change? Somehow **blood, the life-giving element in our bodies, replaced the finer**

substance which coursed through their bodies before. They and we became mortal, subject to illness, pains, and even the physical dissolution called death.” (Spencer W. Kimball, The Teachings of Spencer W. Kimball, 44.), (Spencer W. Kimball, “Absolute Truth”, Ensign, September 1978, given at BYU, see <https://speeches.byu.edu/talks/spencer-w-kimball/absolute-truth/>)

Harold B. Lee and other prophets also taught that Adam had no blood before the fall, but I won’t include all the quotes here for brevity.



Joseph Fielding Smith demonstrated modern education’s rejection of both the fall and atonement. He said, “Adam, our first parent,—and I believe that doctrine very firmly, which is now discounted in the

world—through his transgression brought into the world death, and through death came suffering and sin. **The first death that was pronounced upon him was banishment from the presence of the Lord.** For Adam died two deaths, a spiritual death, or banishment from the presence of God, which is the first death, and which is like the second death which will be pronounced upon the wicked when they are cast out of the presence of the Lord; and he also died the mortal death. **Modern education** declares that there never was such a thing as the “fall” of man, but that conditions have always gone on in the same way as now in this mortal world. Here, say they, death and mutation have always held sway as natural conditions on this earth and everywhere throughout the universe the same laws obtain. It is declared that man has made his ascent to the exalted place he now occupies through countless ages of development which has gradually distinguished him from lower forms of life. Such a doctrine of necessity **discards the story of Adam and the Garden of Eden**, which it looks upon as a myth coming down to us from an early age of foolish ignorance and superstition. Moreover, it is taught that **since death was always here, and a natural condition prevailing throughout all space, there could not possibly come a redemption** from Adam’s transgression, hence there was no need for a Savior for a fallen world.” (Melchizedek Priesthood, Joseph Fielding Smith, Improvement Era, 1937, Vol. XI. May, 1937. No. 5)

As mentioned in this book, a recent message from Elder Jeffrey R. Holland affirmed the reality of the fall. (Jeffrey R. Holland, April 2015, [Where Justice, Love, and Mercy Meet \(churchofjesuschrist.org\)](https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org))

Joseph Fielding Smith put it succinctly, “If there is anybody here that believes that **death has always been going on**, and that sin was always here, he will have a **difficult time to explain Adam and the fall, or the atonement.**” Doctrines of Salvation, 1:119-120.)

In view of the many scriptural and prophetic teachings of no death existing on Earth before the fall, Elder McConkie asked, “Can you harmonize these things with the evolutionary postulate that death has always existed and that the various forms of life have evolved from preceding forms over astronomically long periods of time?” (Elder Bruce R. McConkie, June 1, 1980, <https://speeches.byu.edu/talks/bruce-r-mcconkie/seven-deadly-heresies/>)

Reproduction Only After Their Kind



Paul taught that **“All flesh is not the same flesh: but there is one kind of flesh of men, another flesh of beasts, another of fishes, and another of birds.”** (1 Cor. 15:38-39.)

Let us go to Genesis to demonstrate that animals can only produce after their own kind, which directly contradicts evolutionary theory’s claim of all animals (and plants) coming from a single common ancestor:

“And God said, Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb yielding seed, and the fruit tree yielding fruit after his kind, whose seed is in itself, upon the earth: and it was so. And the earth brought forth grass, and herb yielding seed after his kind, and the tree yielding fruit, whose seed was in itself, after his kind: and God saw that it was good. . . . And God created great whales, and every living creature that moveth, which the waters brought forth abundantly, after their kind, and every winged fowl after his kind: and God saw that it was good. . . . And God said, Let the earth bring forth the living creature after his kind, cattle, and creeping thing, and beast of the earth after his kind: and it was so. And God made the beast of the earth after his

kind, and cattle **after their kind**, and every thing that creepeth upon the earth after his kind: and God saw that it was good.” (Genesis 1:11-12, 21, 24-25)

Ask yourself why God would repeat the instruction “after their kind” so often if it wasn’t of vital importance? Let us go on, still in Genesis:

“And of every living thing of all flesh, two of every sort shalt thou bring into the ark, to keep them alive with thee; they shall be male and female. Of fowls **after their kind**, and of cattle **after their kind**, of every creeping thing of the earth after his kind, two of every sort shall come unto thee, to keep them alive. And take thou unto thee of all food that is eaten, and thou shalt gather it to thee; and it shall be for food for thee, and for them.” (Genesis 6:19-20)

“They, and every beast **after his kind**, and all the cattle **after their kind**, and every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth **after his kind**, and every fowl **after his kind**, every bird of every sort.” (Genesis 7:14)

Now on to the book of Moses: “And I, God, said: Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb yielding seed, the fruit tree yielding fruit, **after his kind**, and the tree yielding fruit, whose seed should be in itself upon the earth, and it was so even as I spake. And the earth brought forth grass, every herb yielding seed **after his kind**, and the tree yielding fruit, whose seed should be in itself, **after his kind**; and I, God, saw that all things which I had made were good; . . . And I, God, created

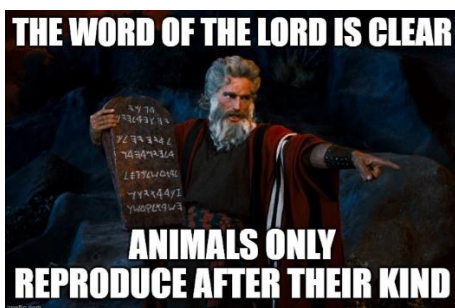
great whales, and every living creature that moveth, which the waters brought forth abundantly, **after their kind**, and every winged fowl **after his kind**; and I, God, saw that all things which I had created were good. . . . And I, God, said: Let the earth bring forth the living creature **after his kind**, cattle, and creeping things, and beasts of the earth **after their kind**, and it was so; And I, God, made the beasts of the earth **after their kind**, and cattle **after their kind**, and everything which creepeth upon the earth **after his kind**; and I, God, saw that all these things were good.” (Moses 2:11-12, 21, 24-25)



Abraham won't want to be left out of this party. His record says,

“And the Gods said: Let us prepare the earth to bring forth grass; the herb yielding seed; the fruit tree yielding fruit, **after his kind**, whose seed in itself yieldeth its own likeness upon the earth; and it was so, even as they ordered. And the Gods organized the earth

to bring forth grass >from its own seed, and the herb to bring forth herb from its own seed, yielding seed **after his kind**; and the earth to bring forth the tree from its own seed, yielding fruit, whose seed could only bring forth the same in itself, **after his kind**; and the Gods saw that they were obeyed. . . . And the Gods prepared the waters that they might bring forth great whales, and every living creature that moveth, which the waters were to bring forth abundantly **after their kind**; and every winged fowl **after their kind**. And the Gods saw that they would be obeyed, and that their plan was good. . . . And the Gods prepared the earth to bring forth the living creature **after his kind**, cattle and creeping things, and beasts of the earth **after their kind**; and it was so, as they had said. And the Gods organized the earth to bring forth the beasts **after their kind**, and cattle **after their kind**, and every thing that creepeth upon the earth **after its kind**; and the Gods saw they would obey.” (Abraham 4:11-12, 21, 24-25)



The teachings of latter-day prophets on this subject, applying it specifically to refute evolution, are abundant. We will now review a small sample of their teachings.

Joseph Smith taught, “God has made certain decrees which are fixed and immovable; for instance—God set the sun, the moon and the stars in the heavens, and gave them their laws conditions and bounds, which they cannot pass, except by his commandments; they all move in perfect harmony in their sphere and order, and are as lights, wonders, and signs unto us. The sea also has its bounds which it cannot pass. God has set many signs on the earth, as well as in the heavens; for instance, the oak of the forest, the fruit of the tree, the herb of the field—**all bear a sign** that seed hath been planted there; for **it is a decree of the Lord that every tree, plant, and herb bearing seed should bring forth of its kind, and cannot come forth after any other law or principle.**” (Joseph Smith, *Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith*, pg 198, selected and arranged by Joseph Fielding Smith [Salt Lake City: Deseret Book Co., 1976], 197)

Joseph also threw down some serious doctrine that flies in the face of evolution when he taught, “If Jesus Christ was the Son of God, and John discovered that **God the Father of Jesus Christ had a Father, you may suppose that He had a Father also. Where was there ever a son without a father? And where was there ever a father without first being a son? Whenever did a tree or anything spring into existence without a progenitor? And everything comes in this way. Paul says that which is earthly is in the likeness of that which is heavenly.**” (Joseph Smith, *Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith*, p. 373)

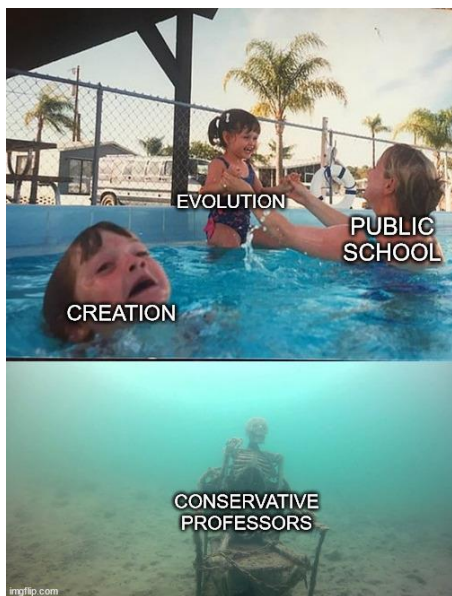
Brigham Young also related the reproduction of species to indicate our literal parent-child relationship to God. He taught, “**Man is the offspring of God.... We are as much the children of this great Being as we are the children of our mortal progenitors. We are flesh of his flesh, bone of his bone, and the same fluid that circulates in our bodies, called blood, once circulated in His veins as it does in ours. As the seeds of grains, vegetables and fruits produce their kind, so man is in the image of God.**” (Brigham Young, Journal of Discourses, 9:283)



John Taylor was straightforward in his renunciation of evolution when he taught the common parentage doctrine. He said, “**All the works of God connected with the world which we inhabit, and with all other worlds, are strictly governed by law...the animal and**

vegetable creations are governed by certain laws, and are composed of certain elements peculiar to themselves. This applies to man, to the beasts, fowls, fish and creeping things, to the insects and to all animated nature; each one possessing its own distinctive features, each requiring a specific sustenance, each having an **organism and faculties governed by prescribed laws to perpetuate its own kind.** So accurate is the formation of the various living creatures that an intelligent student of nature can tell by any particular bone of the skeleton of an animal to what class or order it belongs. These principles **do not change, as represented by evolutionists of the Darwinian school, but the primitive organisms of all living beings exist in the same form as when they first received their impress from their Maker.** There are, indeed, some very **slight exceptions, as for instance, the ass may mix with the mare and produce the mule; but there it ends, the violation of the laws of procreation receives a check, and its operations can go no further.** Similar compounds may possibly be made by experimentalists in the vegetable and mineral kingdoms, but the original elements remain the same. Yet this is not the normal, but an abnormal condition with them, as with animals, birds, etc.; and if we take man, he is said to have been made in the image of God, for the simple reason that he is a son of God; and being His son, he is, of course, His offspring, an emanation from God, in whose likeness, we are told, he is made. He did **not originate from a chaotic mass of matter, moving or inert, but came forth possessing, in an embryotic state, all the**

faculties and powers of a God. And when he shall be perfected, and have progressed to maturity, **he will be like his Father—a God;** being indeed His offspring. As the horse, the ox, the sheep, and **every living creature, including man, propagates its own species and perpetuates its own kind, so does God perpetuate His.**” (John Taylor, Mediation and Atonement, pp. 163-165)



Now look at what Elder Boyd K. Packer recently had to say in General Conference: “**No lesson is more manifest in nature than that all living things do as the Lord commanded in the Creation. They reproduce “after their own kind.”** (See Moses 2:12,24.) They follow the pattern of their parentage. Everyone knows

that; every four-year-old knows that! A bird will not become an animal nor a fish. A mammal will not beget reptiles, nor “do men gather...figs of thistles.” (Matt. 7:16.) In the countless **billions of opportunities in the reproduction of living things, one kind does not beget another.** If a species ever does cross, the offspring generally cannot reproduce. The pattern for all life is the pattern of the parentage. This is demonstrated in so many obvious ways, even an ordinary mind should understand it. **Surely no one with reverence for God could believe that His children evolved from slime** or from reptiles. (Although one can easily imagine that those who accept the theory of evolution don’t show much enthusiasm for genealogical research!) **The theory of evolution, and it’s a theory, will have an entirely different dimension when the workings of God in creation are fully revealed.** Since every living thing follows the pattern of its parentage, are we to suppose that God had some other strange pattern in mind for His offspring? Surely we, His children, are not, in the language of science, a different species than He is?” (Boyd K. Packer, General Conference, Oct 1984)

Other church leaders including George Albert Smith, David O. McKay, Joseph Fielding Smith, Mark E. Peterson, etc. have preached the same message of species only producing after their own kind, and how this doctrine clearly refutes evolution.

7000 Temporal Years of Earth

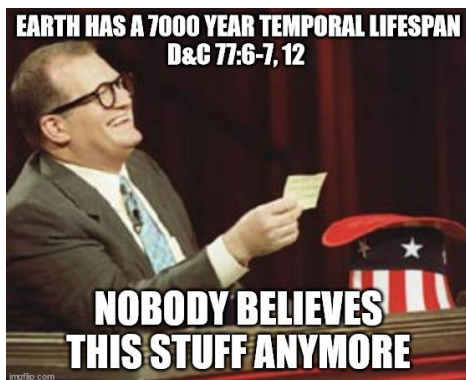
We learn in D&C 77:6-7, 12 that the earth has a 7000-year temporal existence.

“6 Q. What are we to understand by the book which John saw, which was sealed on the back with seven seals? A. We are to understand that it contains the revealed will, mysteries, and the works of God; the hidden things of his economy concerning this earth during **the seven thousand years of its continuance, or its temporal existence.**

7 Q. What are we to understand by the seven seals with which it was sealed? A. We are to understand that the first seal contains the things of the first thousand years, and the second also of the second thousand years, and so on until the seventh.

12 Q. What are we to understand by the sounding of the trumpets, mentioned in the 8th chapter of Revelation? A. We are to understand that **as God made the world in six days, and on the seventh day he finished his work, and sanctified it, and also formed man out of the dust of the earth, even so, in the beginning of the seventh thousand years will the Lord God sanctify the earth,** and complete the salvation of man, and judge all things, and shall redeem all things, except that which he hath not put into his power, when he shall have sealed all things, unto the end of all things; and the sounding of the trumpets of the seven angels are the preparing and finishing of his work, **in the beginning of the seventh**

thousand years—the preparing of the way before the time of his coming.” (D&C 77:6-7, 12)



So where are we? 6000 years are accomplished. The LDS bible dictionary and other chronologies indicate that Adam lived around 4000 BC, which puts us at 6000 years since Adam now, so there's 1,000 more to go till we get to the full 7000-year temporal lifespan. This last 1000-year period is the millennium.

We are currently in the small **preparation window between** the 1st 6000 years and the final 1000 year millennium during which Christ will reign. Again look at verse 12, and this time verse 13 also to pinpoint our position: “...when he shall have sealed all things, **unto the end of all things**; and the sounding of the trumpets of the seven angels are the preparing and finishing of his work, **in the beginning of the seventh thousand years—the preparing of the way before the time of his coming.** 13 Q. When are the things to be

accomplished, which are written in the 9th chapter of Revelation? A. **They are to be accomplished after the opening of the seventh seal, before the coming of Christ.**” (D&C 77:12-13)

Remember that before earth began its temporal lifespan, it was spiritual, just like us (Moses 3:5; 6:51; Gen. 2:4-6; Abr. 5:5; D&C 29:31-2; 77:2). Earth goes through the same phases of pre-mortal spirit life, then temporal life. These facts demonstrate that Earth’s temporal lifespan isn’t some metaphysical spiritual non-real timeframe.



7 Days of Creation

The 7 days of creation are one of the foundational doctrines of all of Judeo-Christianity. Exodus 31:15-17 says “**15 Six days may work be done; but in the seventh is the sabbath of rest, holy to the Lord: whosoever doeth any work in the sabbath day, he shall surely be put to death. 16 Wherefore the children of**

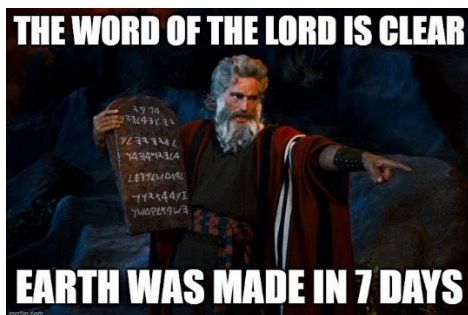
Israel shall keep the sabbath, to observe the sabbath throughout their generations, for a perpetual covenant. 17 It is a sign between me and the children of Israel for ever: for **in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, and on the seventh day he rested**, and was refreshed.”

Mosiah13:19: “19 For in **six days** the Lord made heaven and earth, and the sea, and all that in them is; wherefore the Lord blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it.”

Exodus 20:11: “11 For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the **seventh day**: wherefore the Lord blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it.”

This pattern is further extended in the Doctrine and Covenants when the days of creation are compared to the temporal existence of the Earth. D&C 77:12: “... as God made the world in six days, and on **the seventh day** he finished his work, and sanctified it, and also formed man out of the dust of the earth, even so, in the beginning of **the seventh thousand years** will the Lord God sanctify the earth, and complete the salvation of man ...”

Surely the 7 days of creation aren’t an allegorical platitude, but are a key to correct theology, whether those days are the length of our time, or Gods time.



Abraham 4:23 makes an interesting case for a single calendar day being what is meant by days of creation, describing each creation day as morning until evening:

“And it came to pass that it was from evening until morning that they called night; and it came to pass that it was from morning until evening that they called day; and it was the fifth time.” Note that these days could have been based on our time, or God’s time, whose day is 1000 years to us.



Notice also how the days of creation are in a certain order, and that order is the opposite of evolution! This is another point demonstrating that evolution is anti-science, anti-truth, and therefore, anti-Christ.



BIBLE:	EVOLUTION:
Earth before sun & stars.	Sun & stars before Earth.
Oceans before land.	Land before ocean
Light before sun.	Sun before light.
Land plants before marine life.	Marine life before plants.
Fruit trees before fish.	Fish before fruit trees.
Fish before insects.	Insects before fish.
Plants before sun.	Sun before plants.
Birds before reptiles.	Reptiles before birds.
Man brought death into the world.	Death brought man into the world.
God made man.	Man made God.

(Genesis 1)

1 Day of Creation is 1000 Years

Scriptures from the New Testament, Pearl of Great Price, and D&C show plainly that 1 day to God is the equivalent of 1000 earth years (**JST 2 Peter 3:8; Facs. 2 Fig. 1; Abr. 3:4-11**). This clearly shows that the earth was created over a 6000-year period. So, we have 7000 years of creation, and 7000 years of life on earth before earth is changed into an eternal celestial kingdom.

Here is JST 2 Peter 3:8 demonstrates 1-day equaling 1000 years: **“8 But concerning the coming of the Lord, beloved, I would not have you ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day.”**

Abraham’s Facsimile 2 Figure 1 telling plainly that God’s time is 1000 of our years for one of his days: **“Fig. 1. Kolob, signifying the first creation, nearest to the celestial, or the residence of God. First in government, the last pertaining to the measurement of time. The measurement according to celestial time, which celestial time signifies one day to a cubit. One day in Kolob is equal to a thousand years according to the measurement of this earth, which is called by the Egyptians Jah-oh-eh.”**

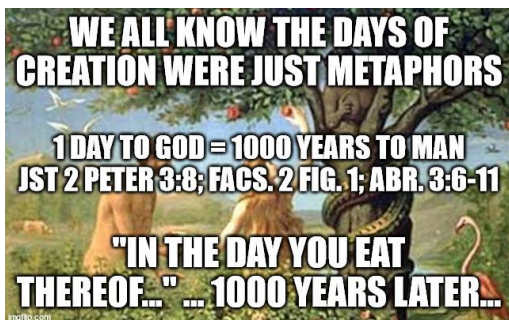
Abraham 3:4-11 shows that time on Kolob has a 1:1000 ratio compared to ours, and that Kolob time is the Lord’s time for creation. Notice the scientific language in this passage, clearly indicating that God’s word was always intended to give us scientific information: **“4 And the Lord said unto me, by the Urim and Thummim, that Kolob was after the manner of the Lord, according to its **times and seasons in the revolutions** thereof; that one revolution was a day unto the Lord, after his manner of reckoning, it being one thousand years according to the time appointed unto that whereon thou standest. This is the reckoning of the**

Lord's time, according to the reckoning of Kolob. 5 And the Lord said unto me: The planet which is the lesser light, lesser than that which is to rule the day, even the night, is above or greater than that upon which thou standest in point of reckoning, for it **moveth in order** more slow; this is in order because it standeth **above** the earth upon which thou standest, therefore the reckoning of its time is not so many as to its number of **days, and of months, and of years.** 6 And the Lord said unto me: Now, Abraham, these two **facts** exist, behold thine eyes see it; it is given unto thee to **know** the **times of reckoning, and the set time**, yea, the set time of the earth upon which thou standest, and the set time of the greater light which is set to rule the day, and the set time of the lesser light which is set to rule the night. 7 Now the set time of the lesser light is a longer time as to its reckoning than the reckoning of the time of the earth upon which thou standest. 8 And where these two **facts** exist, there shall be another fact above them, that is, there shall be another planet whose reckoning of time shall be longer still; 9 And thus there shall be the reckoning of the time of one planet above another, until thou come nigh unto Kolob, which Kolob is after the reckoning of the Lord's time; which Kolob is set nigh unto the throne of God, to govern all those planets which belong to the same order as that upon which thou standest. 10 And it is **given unto thee to know** the set time of all the stars that are set to give light, until thou come near unto the throne of God. 11 Thus I, Abraham, talked with the Lord, face to face, as

one man talketh with another; and he told me of the works which his hands had made;”

Remember that whether the days of creation were 1-24-hour periods or 1,000-year periods, these are very similar compared to evolution's timeline. 7 days vs 7000 years would be about 8 inches apart compared to evolution being 100 miles down the road. So, either view, we could say we are very much on the same page, compared to the absurdity of evolution. 7 days and 7000-year theories both reject natural selection and the concept of a common ancestor of living things. And why the God who turned water into wine and calmed the stormy seas would need billions of years to create the world confounds me!

Also note how Adam was told he would surely die the day he partook of the fruit, and he lived to be in the 900s before he died. This is further evidence that God's Day is 1,000 of our years, and the non-symbolic nature of the 1:1,000 ratio.



Worldwide Flood of Noah

Modern science flatly rejects the worldwide flood of Noah. A worldwide flood is tremendous evidence for catastrophism and a young Earth, everything evolutionists hate.

Let's start with the LDS Bible Dictionary entry on Noah's Flood:

The tradition of a great flood is found in nearly every ancient culture. A Babylonian account closely resembles the record in the Bible, but the biblical account differs from all others in its religious value and the purpose of it. The scriptural account teaches that the Flood was sent to cleanse the earth because of the wickedness of the people. Noah and his family were saved because they were righteous ([Gen. 6:9](#); [Moses 8:27](#)). The authenticity of the Genesis account of the Flood is confirmed by latter-day revelation as recorded in [Moses 7:34, 42–43; 8:8–30](#). See also [Ether 13:2](#).

As we can see, this confirms that the flood was global in scope, intended to cleanse the Earth, and that many scriptures of the Restoration support this fact.

Leaders of the restored Church of Christ have repeatedly taught that the Earth was 'baptized' (by immersion, as that is the restored knowledge of the

right way to baptize) by the flood. In summary, these prophets taught this doctrine:

-Peter, New Testament, 1 Peter 3:20-21

-Joseph Smith, T.P.J.S. p.12

-Brigham Young, JD, 1:274; JD 8:83

-Lorenzo Snow, The Only Way to Be Saved (London: D. Chalmers, 1841), 3-4.

-Joseph Fielding Smith, Doctrines of Salvation, 2:320; Man His Origin and Destiny, 433-36

-John A. Widtsoe, Evidences and Reconciliations, 127

-And Others: Elders Orson Pratt, Orson F. Whitney, Bruce R. McConkie

Of course there's always the party poopers. BYU Hawaii President Richard T. Wootton in his book Saints and Scientists

said, "(Gen. 7:19-20) To take this to mean that the tops of all the mountains, and Ararat, were covered at least 15 cubic deep and the whole earth correspondingly takes an **extremely Literal and narrow** reading of Genesis. It hinges on **inflexible rendition** of two words, **all** and **whole**. It gives **no recognition** that it may only [be] a report of the scene **as it appeared to the local observer**, rather than as if god himself were the writer, which, if one wishes to be literal, the Bible itself does not literally affirm." (Richard T. Wootton—President BYU Hawaii 1959-1964, Saints and Scientists, p.45-46)

As for me and my house, we will continue to take scripture literally, and we will maintain our inflexible view of the words 'all' and 'whole.'

Duane E. Jeffrey claims that the scripture isn't clear on the flood. He says, "**Latter-day scriptures do not really clarify** the question of whether the Noachian flood covered the entire earth or if it was a more localized event. **Clearly**, through out our tradition's history, we have tended to read the flood as universal, but I believe that **is less from the influence of scripture** itself and far more because we have been culturally predisposed to read it that way" (Duane E. Jeffery—BYU Professor 1969—currently listed emeritus/retired; Noah's Flood: Modern Scholarship and Mormon Traditions, oct 2004, Sunstone, p.35; <https://www.sunstonemagazine.com/issues/134.pdf>)

The prophets are not deterred by these theories of men. Elder Mark E. Peterson taught concerning the flood, "Latter-day saints do seek knowledge. We strongly advocate study, research, and education; but **we cannot agree with misguided conclusions that defy the scriptures and seem to refute revelation.** Revelation is real! Revelation is sure!" (Elder Mark E. Peterson, Noah and the Flood, p.92)



In our effort to establish the events of the creation as literal, let us remember passages on the flood from **Genesis 6:12-13, 17-19: "12 And God looked upon the**

earth, and, behold, it was corrupt; for **all** flesh had corrupted his way upon the earth. **13** And God said unto Noah, The end of **all** flesh is come before me; for the earth is **filled** with violence through them; and, behold, **I will destroy them with the earth.**”

“**17** And, behold, I, even I, do bring a flood of waters upon the earth, to destroy **all** flesh, wherein *is* the breath of life, from under heaven; *and every thing that is in the earth shall die.* **18** But with thee will I establish my covenant; and thou shalt come into the ark, thou, and thy sons, and thy wife, and thy sons’ wives with thee. **19** And of **every living thing of all flesh**, two of every *sort* shalt thou bring into the ark, to keep *them* alive with thee; they shall be male and female.”



Note that God used Noah to establish His covenant because Noah was the only person left, along with his small family. He also didn't just tell Noah to move away, because the flood wasn't local. He had to bring the animals for this reason as well. Earth was

immersed completely in its baptism. Further, as Henry Morris pointed out, God's promise to never again send a flood would be broken repeatedly if it were only a local flood.



Genesis 7:4, 11, 17-24 establishes the universality of the flood:

“4 For yet seven days, and I will cause it to rain upon the earth forty days and forty nights; and every living substance that I have made will I destroy from off the face of the earth.”

“11 ¶ In the six hundredth year of Noah’s life, in the second month, the seventeenth day of the month, the same day were all the fountains of the great deep broken up, and the windows of heaven were opened. 17 And the flood was forty days upon the earth; and the waters increased, and bare up the ark, and it was lifted up above the earth.”

“18 And the waters prevailed, and were increased greatly upon the earth; and the ark went upon the face of the waters. 19 And the waters prevailed exceedingly upon the earth; and all the high hills, that *were* under the whole heaven, were covered. 20 Fifteen cubits upward did the waters prevail; and the mountains were covered. 21 And all flesh died that moved upon the earth, both of fowl, and of cattle, and of beast, and of every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth, and every man: 22 All in whose nostrils *was* the breath of life, of all that *was* in the dry *land*, died. 23 And every living substance was destroyed which was upon the face of the ground, both man, and cattle, and the creeping things, and the fowl of the heaven; and they were destroyed from the earth: and Noah only remained *alive*, and they that *were* with him in the ark. 24 And the waters prevailed upon the earth an hundred and fifty days.”

Note: “Prevailed” means won, or were on top of, here meaning completely covering.

Scientists 200 years ago



Proof that global flood
wiped out dinos 4500yrs ago

imgflip.com

Scientists today



Local flood,
millions of years

Ongoing Creation (On Big Bang & Cosmic Origins)

The creation account is clearly understood to be about this Earth, not all Earths. This obliterates the Big Bang theory about all of the universe coming into existence at one time (and yes, there are scientific problems with redshift, relativity, and other mainstream theories). Moses also distinguishes the latter-day saints from other Christian faiths by demonstrating the knowledge that God's creation wasn't a one-time deal, and that His creations will continue forever.

Remember Russell M Nelson's prophetic teachings against the Big Bang from earlier: "...some people

erroneously think that these marvelous physical attributes happened by chance or resulted from a big bang somewhere. Ask yourself, “Could an explosion in a printing shop produce a dictionary?” The likelihood is *most* remote. But if so, it could never heal its own torn pages or reproduce its own newer editions!” (Russell M Nelson, Conf. Report April 2012, Thanks Be To God

<https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/study/general-conference/2012/04/thanks-be-to-god?lang=eng>)

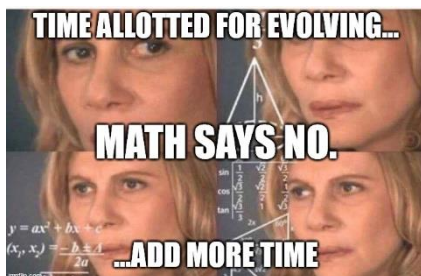
Strangely, most Christian creationists advocate this planet as the only place humans are to be found, and we have scripture demonstrating that this is incorrect as well (think of the D&C where Joseph teaches that multiple worlds are inhabited, for starters, and God teaching Moses of the many inhabited worlds He has made.)

On page 20, the LTSR authors state, “Young earth creationism is not supported by the science that shows our earth has existed for **at least** 4.5 billion years and that life has existed upwards of 3.5 billion years.”

Notice above how the LTSR authors are careful to indicate that Earth and life on it may be even older than the numbers they have provided. Those familiar with evolutionary theory know that evolutionists continually revise the age of the earth to accommodate the

statistical impossibility of life's evolution within the time frame they propose.

In what are now humorous admissions, modern science has recently been talking about doubling (again) the age of the universe, bringing it up from around 14 billion years old, now to around 27 billion (here's one article for example: <https://www.earth.com/news/new-study-claims-our-universe-is-27-billion-years-old-double-the-current-age-estimate/>). This is in part because, as stated in the article, "The James Webb Space Telescope has discovered early galaxies that seem to be far too advanced for their age." In other words, when they looked at where they thought would be evidence of the 'early' and 'young' universe, they found, to their surprise, advanced galaxies. Looks like they are completely off in their calculations about the origins of the universe. When Joseph Fielding Smith published *Man: His Origin and Destiny* in the 1950s, the universe age was around 7 billion years. Someday they'll figure out that the works of God are eternal, without beginning or end.



This is one of the many times they put supposed scientific knowledge above scripture. It is shocking how quickly they dismiss scripture because of what they think they know from science. Clearly their priorities are first science, second scripture. Clearly this is not how God intended our education to be conducted.

Science is, in fact, beginning to catch up with scripture; scientists are showing that our dating methods are unreliable and based on faulty premises, such as the notion that the earth began as a melted rock, whereas scripture states that it began primarily as water (**JST 2 Peter 3:5-7; Gen. 1:1-10**). Radiometric dating simply doesn't work for a water world, it only works for a clock ticking back to when rock was last melted. Creation rock never melted at all. For the best treatment of the water creation, refer to Universal Model Vol. 1, chapters 5 & 7, and read Evolution Cruncher. We forget that 200 years ago, the scientific community understood a young water-based Earth, and only upon false premises did they build the case for an old magma-based Earth. In short, modern science has no clear understanding of how the Creation occurred.



Debunking The Theory of Old Earth Repeated Creations

Theories mixing evolution and Christianity, particularly the ‘repeated life cycles of Earth’ theory were advocated by Ken Peterson on the Mormon renegade (episode 98:

<https://open.spotify.com/episode/2jHPJBzkqC1YKBGDuc8lmD?si=0DDSrDwSQYO-63Ik76d3MQ>).

Peterson of course is a great guy, but here I’ll present my disagreement of his theories.

Peterson drew upon teaching the book “Earth in the beginning” by Eric Skousen. That book has a few good points but lots of falsehoods.

Peterson claims that because Joseph Smith said the words world and Earth are not the same and that because of this distinction there could have been many

worlds which came into being and passed away on this same Earth. This is a direct conflict with the doctrine of no death before the fall.

With this view he believes in hominid humans who are part human and part ape. He has failed to learn that neanderthal finds and other hominids are frauds, monkeys, and common pigmies.

He assumes that science has basically correct ages for the earth and the geological time scale and the various extinctions. He assumes that God created and destroyed various quote unquote worlds here as shown by the extinctions.

He trusts the geological time scale numbers, which do not attribute a mass extinction to the flood of Noah, which took place approximately 4,500 years ago. The supposed Cambrian Extinction millions of years ago was the flood of Noah. Who do believers in God trust the timeline setup by the atheist calculations of nature forming without any supernatural influence?

He is apparently unaware that science continually revises its estimates of the Earth's age. Whenever we demonstrate that evolution doesn't work, they make it older.

He is also apparently unaware that the geologic time scale is a mythical creation found only in textbooks and museums. Science does not provide any location

that demonstrates the column or even the order the column requires. The column was invented as a way to explain an old Earth, and the old Earth was invented as a means to explain evolutionary creation without the need for God - that's the whole point, that's what evolution and old Earth are all about.

He doesn't understand that dinosaurs (not dragons) lived alongside humans and became extinct during the flood of Noah. He doesn't understand that the flood of Noah is what created all fossils, including those of dinosaurs.

He is correct that we cannot explain life on Earth by natural selection and macroevolution; that clearly God had to place life on Earth. But they are incorrect and assuming that God placed this life on Earth millions and billions of years ago, after the various extinction events.

He makes a claim that because William Phelps stated that Joseph Smith taught that this system has been going on for approximately 2.55 billion years, which is roughly the age of the Earth. This number could apply to an entire galaxy system or a larger system, etc., we don't know what system he was referring to.

Yes, the 2.55 billion years, when translated into God years of the 1000 to 1 ratio, does become 7,000 years, which is a nice round number that appears in the scriptures. But the scriptures referring to the 7000-year

temporal life of this Earth are clearly referring to our time. A more plausible theory is that these 7,000 God years, or approximately 2.55 billion years, represent the duration this galaxy system has been in operation under Jehovah's control.



Evidence is mounting that this Earth was created over 7,000 years ago and has now been inhabited for some 6,000 years, and the final 1,000-year millennium is to be the most glorious. The temporal lifespan of the Earth has always been understood to span from the fall of Adam to the end of the millennium, and the millennium has always been taught to be approximately between 2,000 and 3,000 AD.

Peterson rightly points out that microbiology disproves the phylum tree of life.

Peterson joins with Hugh Nibley in the incorrect belief that pre-Adamite civilizations existed long before Adam.

He also promotes ideas from the Kolob theorem that God's dwelling is the center of the Galaxy. This idea is also promoted by many saints and is a fascinating possibility.

He promotes unproven mainstream scientific philosophies like wormholes, folding of space, dark matter, and dark energy.

He makes a good point that the James Webb telescope showed deep into space where scientists thought the universe began, where there would be different types of incomplete galaxies, but what they saw were more complete galaxies, which demonstrated the scriptural teaching that there is no beginning.

Additional Resources

My main video presentation responding to Let's Talk Science & Religion:

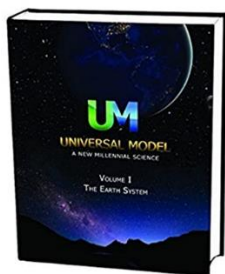
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1yB5lY9WaK4&t=2865s>

See Gary Shapiro's blog "No Death Before the Fall" at <http://ndbf.blogspot.com>. (Sadly this site is no longer in operation as Gary has passed on, but some pages of it can still be found.)

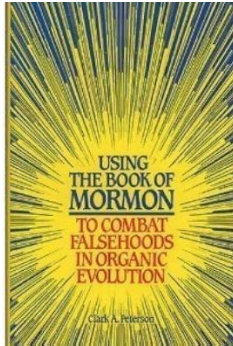
Book “Man: His Origin and Destiny” by Joseph Fielding Smith. This is both a great dissertation on Church doctrines, and has several chapters specifically refuting claims of evolutionary theory. This book was written by an Apostle and was advocated by the Church for many years. Members of the Quorum of the 12 urged him to write it, and President Benson highly recommended it. Get a copy and see for yourself!

<https://www.amazon.com/Origin-Destiny-Joseph-Fielding-Smith/dp/B00073363I>

Book “Universal Model: A New Millennial Science.” (2 volumes) (UniversalModel.com) This is a terrific academic resource put together by a member of the Church which demonstrates the geologic fact of Noah’s worldwide flood, a young earth, the impossibility of evolution from monkeys, and so on.



Book “Using the Book of Mormon to Combat Falsehoods in Organic Evolution” by Clark Peterson.



Dissent from Darwin: Scientists unite in expressing doubt in claims of Darwin's theory:

<https://dissentfromdarwin.org>

Book "Science and Religion: Reconciling the Conflicts" by David Barker. This non-denominational book by a latter-day saint researcher does a good job showing that the science which doesn't match the Bible is actually not good science, such as the flawed dating methods.

Purchase a paperback here: <https://a.co/d/5oNfz1u>

David Barker has shared the 2nd (latest) edition of his Science and Religion book where he demonstrates highly detailed research supporting the young earth.

Visit his webiste

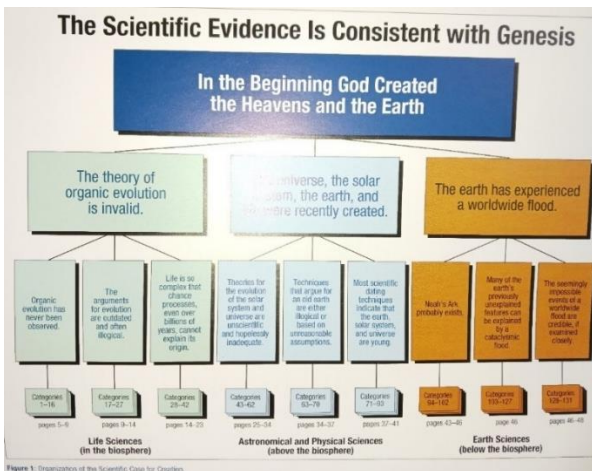
<http://davidmckaybarker.com/> or use this link directly:

<https://davidmckaybarker.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/04/Science-and-Religion-Reconciling-the-Conflicts-2nd-Edition.pdf>

Book “The Evolution Cruncher.” Get a free PDF of this excellent book and succeeding editions here
<https://evolutionfacts.com/Downloads.htm>

Book “In The Beginning by Walt Brown.” Get a free PDF of this excellent book here
<https://creationism.org/books/index.htm>





A great resource to begin creation science study with many free resources is creationism.org, where you can access the Kent Hovind lecture slides & many creation flagship books as free PDFs.

Jeremy Michel's Dinosaurs in Scripture presentation: [Dinosaurs in Scriptures, Dragons, Living Dinosaurs, and Noah's Flood. \(youtube.com\)](http://Dinosaurs%20in%20Scriptures,%20Dragons,%20Living%20Dinosaurs,%20and%20Noah's%20Flood.%20youtube.com)

Book "Doctrinal Foundations of the Creation of Life" by Lee H. Pearson, PhD (An LDS View & Scientific Evidence).

Book "Bones of Contention." Refutes leading hominid bone claims in detail.

Book "From Darwin to Hitler: Evolutionary Ethics, Eugenics and Racism in Germany" by Richard Weikart.

See the Joseph Smith Foundation FAQs on science page. Their 40 magnificent articles compiling over 700 pages of teachings from the prophets against evolution are as follows:

- [00\) Introduction: Science vs. Religion?](#)
- [01\) ACCOUNTABLE: Does what a person believes about organic evolution influence the way he/she lives? Will those who promote the theories of organic evolution stand accountable before God?](#)
- [02\) OFFICIAL POSITION: Does the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints have an official position regarding the theory of organic evolution?](#)
- [03\) AFTER KIND: What do the revelations teach concerning animals reproducing after their kind? What has been taught about the law of adaptation and the more recently coined term microevolution?](#)
- [04\) RECENT: Have Church authorities made comments on the theory of organic evolution in recent years? Has the Church changed its position? Are we embarrassed by the statements made by early leaders and the scriptures?](#)
- [05\) DEATH BEFORE FALL: Was there death on earth prior to the Fall? Has the Church changed its position on this?](#)
- [06\) PRE-FALL CONDITIONS: Did the Fall introduce reproduction, blood, sin, pain and other mortal conditions? In addition to man, did the Fall affect plants, animals and the earth itself?](#)
- [07\) WHEN FALL: When did the Fall occur? Why does this matter when considering the theory of evolution? Why is the genealogy from Adam to Christ important to age of the earth discussions?](#)
- [08\) CONFLICTING PRESIDENTS: Are there many conflicting opinions with diversity of viewpoint among the previous presidents of the Church on the theory of organic evolution? Have some spoken for, some against and others in between?](#)
- [09\) SCRIPTURES: Is Darwinism in conflict with the standard works? Can the revelations of God be trusted? Are there errors in the revelations in regard to science?](#)

- 10) 1910 MESSAGE: Was there a 1910 First Presidency Message that taught that man may have evolved?
- 11) ADAM'S FATHER: Who was the father of Adam? Do we have a Royal heritage?
- 12) DESTROY FAITH: Does teaching the words of Latter-Day prophets on the subject of organic evolution destroy faith? Does teaching the doctrines contained in the scriptures concerning the age of the earth destroy faith?
- 13) 3 BYU PROFESSORS: Why did President Joseph F. Smith dismiss three professors from Brigham Young University for teaching organic evolution?
- 14) BYU'S PURPOSE: Was Brigham Young University established to refute the theories of Darwinism?
- 15) TALMAGE – WIDTSOE – ROBERTS: Were James E. Talmage, John A. Widtsoe and B. H. Roberts followers of the theories of Darwin?
- 16) DAVID O. MCKAY: Was President David O. McKay a supporter of the theories of evolution?
- 17) CONTENTION: Should the discussion of evolution be let alone to avoid contention? Should we defend the Prophets and Scripture?
- 18) CREATIONISM: How should Latter-day Saints view Creationism? Should Latter-Day Saints understand the Creation account literally?
- 19) INTELLIGENT DESIGN: How should Latter-day Saints view Intelligent Design? Is there evidence of God in His creations?
- 20) HARMONIZE: Should the Gospel and evolution be harmonized? Are the conflicts between evolution and statements made by the Prophets caused by terminology misuse?
- 21) DO WE KNOW: Have we received much instruction on the subject of organic evolution? Do we just need to wait until the Lord reveals information on the Creation of the Earth? How many revealed accounts of the Creation are there?
- 22) JOSEPH FIELDING SMITH: Should President Joseph Fielding Smith's position on organic evolution be taken seriously?

- 23) PRE-ADAMITES: Were there “pre-Adamites” or pre-human beings prior to Adam being placed upon the earth? Was Adam a cave-man? Are the world’s teachings about how language and civilization progressed accurate?
- 24) MORMONISM AND EVOLUTION: Is the book Mormonism and Evolution: The Authoritative LDS Statements authoritative?
- 25) ADAM FATHER: Is the scriptural teaching that Adam is the father of the entire human family problematic for evolutionary teachings?
- 26) PATRIARCH AGES: Are the long life-spans of the patriarchs true doctrine? What does this mean for the theory of Darwinian evolution?
- 27) CHARLES DARWIN: What have LDS Church leaders taught about Charles Darwin, Darwin’s influence and his life? Who inspired the theories of organic evolution? Has Darwinism been an influence in moving us into a “post-Christian” era?
- 28) YOUNG EARTH: Do the revelations teach a 7,000 year temporal existence of the earth? Can the scriptures and writings of the presidents of the church be harmonized with the scientific principle of Uniformitarianism?
- 29) LITERAL FLOOD: Does LDS doctrine support a literal universal flood? What does this mean for the theory of Darwinian evolution?
- 30) PELEG: Was the earth (continents) divided in the days of Peleg? What does this mean for the theory of evolution?
- 31) ALL BEAR RECORD: Were all of the creations in the universe created for symbols in understanding the Plan of Salvation? Were all things created and made to bear record of the Lord? Why is this contrary to the foundations of Darwinism?
- 32) TEMPORAL AND SPIRITUAL: Should religion and science be kept separate? Can Prophets receive revelation on scientific subjects? Are the temporal and spiritual two distinct realms?
- 33) HISTORY REVEALED: Has the history of the earth ever been revealed? What does this mean for the theory of evolution?
- 34) ANCIENT KNOWLEDGE: Did the ancient prophets know more concerning astronomy than modern science?

- 35) ENCYCLOPEDIA OF MORMONISM: Is the Encyclopedia of Mormonism article on evolution authoritative?
- 36) OPPOSING WORLD VIEWS: How does a providential world view differ from an evolutionary world view? Which view should be taken by Latter-day Saints?
- 37) NATURAL LAWS: Is God the Creator and Origin of the natural laws of the Universe? Can Darwinian theory be harmonized with this doctrine?
- 38) DESTROY FAITH: Does a belief in theory of organic evolution negatively influence faith in the Gospel of Jesus Christ? Can a person have sound understanding of the atonement and fall and at the same time believe in the theories of organic evolution?
- 39) FACT OF EVOLUTION: Is organic evolution, more recently coined macroevolution, an established fact? Has science proven evolution to be true? Are all credible scientists evolutionists?
- 40) CHRISTIAN SCIENTISTS: Which great scientists were followers of Jesus Christ?

Wake Up Saints, God Didn't Use Evolution!

Are you aware that there are abundant teachings on canonized scriptures and teachings of Latter-Day prophets spanning centuries, including First Presidency statements, renouncing Darwinian evolution?

Both hard (atheistic) evolution and soft (theistic) evolution are a far cry from the miraculous creative processes employed by God.

Originally published in 2024, this book commemorates the 70th anniversary of Joseph Fielding Smith's book *Man: His Origin & Destiny*, sharing many quotations of Smith's timeless message against evolution anew. This updated edition, published in 2025, commemorates the 100th anniversary of the bold 1925 First Presidency message clearly denouncing evolution.

Join Nate, a church member, science teacher, and BYU graduate, who discusses these controversial issues in an easy-to-read format with color-coded text and laughs around every corner.

Now is the time for the silent majority who recognize the inherently ridiculous nature of evolution to learn the scientific and doctrinal facts about creation and the corrupt social implications of evolution so they can stand boldly in this urgent fight for the souls of this generation.

There's no need for Darwinian evolution to explain human origins when we've got the restored gospel!

Nate is a church member, science teacher, and BYU graduate who discusses these controversial issues in an easy-to-read format complete with color-coded text and laughs around every corner.