

Issues with a Common Ancestor & Transitional Species

NOT A NOBLE PEDIGREE?

At the end of the day, if mainstream science claims about common origins of life are true, as suggested by its claims in biology and geology, it paints a very sad picture for mankind. Darwin was honest when he pointed out that, according to his theory of the common origins of all living things, humans have "a pedigree of prodigious length, but not, it may be said, of noble quality." (Charles Darwin, *Descent of Man*, pp. 164-165, 1897 edition.) Darwin went so far as to mock the faithful, saying, "It is only...arrogance which made our forefathers declare that they were descended from...gods." (*The Descent of Man*, pp. 31-32)



Guilty as charged. Luke 3:38 says, "Adam, which was the son of God." In 1909 the First Presidency of the restored Church said that mankind are the "direct lineal offspring of deity." If you want people to take the "child of God" doctrine seriously, stop teaching evolution! Consider the implications of our doctrines. God has a tangible body (D&C 130:22), He is married to a woman (D&C 130:2 etc.), procreation is divine when used properly (1 Cor. 11:11, Gen. 1:28), and "children are an heritage from the Lord" (Psalm 127:3-5). Being made 'of the dust' is merely figurative speech, as indicated by Moses 6:59. We too were made 'of the dust'. Adam was made like anyone else. When the human race realizes that it is the same species as God, it will gain tremendous power to attain its divine destiny! The worldview of evolution is the opposite of Christianity: Evolution says we rose up from lower species, Christianity says we fell from God above. We must school our character, but the fact of our noble parentage should not be denied.

PHYLOGENETIC TREE INHERENTLY THEORETICAL

The evolutionary phylogenetic tree claims that a single common ancestor is at the root of all animal and human life. But many branches of the tree are not labeled, because they have not been discovered. Sometimes they make up names of creatures not yet discovered as placeholders (see Stephen Meyer, "Darwin's Doubt"). They convey that their message has more evidence than it does. Biochemist Michael Behe put it well when he said, "All sciences begin with speculation, only Darwinism ends with it." ("Darwin's Black Box," *Afterward*.) The lack of common ancestors led evolutionist W. Ford Doolittle, evolutionary and molecular biologist professor at Dalhousie University, to say, "The rooting of the universal tree is hopelessly compromised."

TRANSITIONAL FOSSILS

MARBLE ANALOGY: If you're told a bag of marbles has all the colors of the spectrum, but you only pull out red and blue, you should question whether all colors are in the bag. So it is with the fossil record. We simply don't find what Darwin's theory requires. (This analogy was from "Darwin's Doubt" by Stephen Meyer, PhD in the philosophy of science.)

CANYON JUMP ANALOGY: If your friend says he jumped across a whole canyon, you wouldn't believe him. He might say that little buttes appeared, enabling him to jump across, and that they disappeared after he jumped on them. This is unbelievable. So it is with transitional fossil claims - we don't see them, we can't believe them. (This analogy comes from biochemist Michael Behe's "Darwin's Black Box" by Michael Behe, PhD in biochemistry.)

COMPLEX LIFE FORMS IN LOWEST LAYERS: Darwin admitted, "There is another and allied difficulty, which is much more serious. I allude to the manner in which many species in several of the **main divisions of the animal kingdom suddenly appear in the lowest known fossiliferous rocks**. Most of the arguments which have convinced me that all the existing species of the same group are descended from a single progenitor, apply with nearly equal force to the earliest known species." (Charles Darwin, *The Origin of Species*, Chapter 10, On The Imperfection Of The Geological Record)

TRANSITIONAL FOSSIL NARRATIVE

Gee says, "you cannot connect one fossil with any other to form a narrative." (Henry Gee, well-known paleontologist and senior editor of *Nature*, Europe's most popular scientific journal, in his book, *In Search of Deep Time*)

Poirier says, "the fossil record has been described as a chaos of anthropological nomenclature and critics have deemed the conventions of human paleontology peculiarly permissive." (*Fossil Evidence, The human evolution journey*: Frank E. Poirier, Second Edition, C. V. Mosby Company, 1977, p15)

Berlinski says, "A detailed and continuous record of transition between species is missing, those neat sedimentary layers, as Gould noted time and again, never revealing precisely the phenomena that Darwin proposed to explain... 'most of the fossil record does not support a strictly gradualistic account'... precisely what Darwin's theory demands." (David Berlinski, educator and former professor at Columbia University)

Poirier says, "One of the major stumbling blocks is the lack of evidence concerning fossil forms and the ignorance about the direction of evolutionary trends and rates of evolution. This creates a serious problem, since without data, weighting of characters in classification is largely subjective, and a truly evolutionary classification will never be a reality." Frank E. Poirier, Fossil Evidence, p12; Universal Model 2 p180

WH Smith says, "We have a desire to see the story of bipedalism as a linear, progressive thing... but evolution doesn't evolve toward anything; it's a messy affair, full of diversity and dead ends." (Will Harcourt Smith – Anthropologist, American Museum of Natural History)

Gee says, "...the human family of species are arranged in an orderly procession from primitive forms up to modern Man. But such scenarios are subjective...they are unscientific." (Henry Gee)

POPULAR REPTILE TO BIRD CLAIM

There are no transitional fossils linking the platypus to other species. We think we have it all figured out with our classifications, but God reminds us with strange creatures that He is the creator and makes what He wishes.

There is no viable scientific explanation of how scales would evolve into feathers. There are no intermediate feathers between a reptile scale and a bird feather.

What about Archeopteryx's claws and teeth? Other modern birds, such as the ostrich, have 3 claws on each wing, the same as Archeopteryx. The Hoatzin of South America and Touraco of Africa have claws on their wings too. Various modern birds have teeth also, such as the Graylag Goose. Evolution scientist P. Moody also acknowledges that it's nothing strange for a bird to have teeth. He says, "However, other extinct ancient birds had teeth, and every other category of vertebrates contains some organisms with teeth, and some without (amphibians, reptiles, extinct birds, mammals, etc.)."—(*P. Moody, Introduction to Evolution (1970), pp. 196-197)

There are modern birds in the same (Jurassic) period, as well as modern birds before this period. One evolutionist admitted that "It is obvious that we must now look for the ancestors of flying birds in a period of time much older than that in which Archaeopteryx lived."—(*J. Ostrom, Science News 112 (1977), p. 198.)

The fact of large gaps between species is a major problem for evolution and major evidence for creation.

BREEDING LIMITS & NO NEW SPECIES

Gee says, "At no point does the breeder produce a breed of pigeon that is so extreme that one can no longer consider it a pigeon...endless varieties can be produced but in no case are new species formed." (In Search of Deep Time: Henry Gee, The Free Press, 1999, p33)

Scientist and prophet Russel M. Nelson stated the obvious when he said, 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. 141 Nelson](#))

PHILOSOPHY OF SCIENCE: The famous Science journal reported, "No one has actually witnessed the birth of a species in the wild ..." (Science, 25 June 1999, p2106) Some may say we must wait millions of years, but that's not science. Scientific claims must be testable.

Author Ernst Mayr, delivering a lecture after receiving the Crafoord Prize from the Royal Swedish Academy of Science explained the non-empirical nature of evolution, saying, "Evolutionary biology, in contrast with physics and chemistry, is a historical science- the evolutionist attempts to explain events and 117 processes that have already taken place. Laws and experiments are inappropriate techniques for the explication of such events and processes." (End of quote)

So it's not the creationists but the evolutionists who throw out the scientific method. Too often evolutionists use the words "science" and "evolution" interchangeably. Creationists aren't abandoning science, they are doing science by questioning popular (dogmatic) ideas.

DINOSAUR EVIDENCE AGAINST TRANSITIONAL FOSSILS

Scientists have found dinosaur fossils next to modern animal fossil forms. Ducks, turtles, snakes, all by the T-Rex. Why don't these animals appear together in museums? They want you to think that dinosaurs lived long before other modern animals. Once again, evolution theory gets in the way of the evidence.

They say dinosaurs turn into birds, but bird fossils are found with dinosaur fossils. A new Netflix Dinosaur docudrama has been criticized for selectively choosing when to put feathers on dinosaurs, when the feathers aren't seen on dinosaurs. The docudrama tries to depict bird fossils as being reptilian to fit their narrative of transitioning species. They even show a hatching egg, and claim a new species is born, but they don't say who the mother of that egg was. (For further analysis of this Netflix presentation, see the YouTube video

["The Hidden Agenda Behind Netflix's New Dinosaur "Documentary"'](#) by Answers in Genesis and Joel Paleoart.)

