

## QUESTIONS FOR THEISTIC EVOLUTIONISTS

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The Bible teaches that God created the material universe and all life in six days. The atheistic evolutionist thinks all that exists gradually came into being over a period of millions of years without the work of God. The theistic evolutionist believes in the existence of God and that God used the evolutionary process to bring the universe and all life into existence. His position is one of compromise; he wishes to be in good standing with both the enemies and the friends of the Bible. The following questions are among those I give my preacher students. I believe they will be good for brethren among us who hold to this theory of evolution.

1. **Do you accept the Bible, especially Genesis 1-11 as the inspired word of God or is it a collection of myths?** This portion of Scripture affirms that God created, spoke into existence that which before did not exist—the heavens and the earth and all life. Scripture says “WHAT IS SEEN HATH NOT BEEN MADE OUT OF THINGS WHICH APPEAR” (**Hebrews 11:3**). Jesus often quoted from this section of Scripture as being the Word of God (**Matthew 19:4 24:37**). Paul said God made the world and all things therein (**Acts 17:24**). The apostle Peter said God made “THE HEAVEN AND THE EARTH AND THE SEA, AND ALL THAT IS IN THEM” (**Acts 4:24**). There can be no doubt that Jesus and His inspired apostles all believed **Genesis 1-11** to be God’s Word.
2. **Do you think God made Adam from the dust of the earth in one day?** **Genesis 2:7** and **3:19** tell us that God made man from the dust of the ground, but evolutionists tell us man evolved from the lower animals. One cannot believe both statements.
3. **Do you believe Adam was alone before Eve was created?** **Genesis 2:18** tells us God saw it was not good for man to be alone, so He made a woman for him. Evolutionists say there was a gradual progress from lower to higher forms of life. If so, how could there be one fully developed human male, but not at the same time a fully developed human female? The Bible says there was such. He had sufficient intellect to name every living creature, but there was not one among the living creatures fit to be his mate. So God put him to sleep, took a rib from his side, and made a help meet for him. If the theistic evolutionist is right, God used the evolutionary process to bring mankind, male and female, into being. The Bible says God took a rib out of the male and made a female. If the female of the human race did not come into existence in this way, the Bible is false and not to be trusted. But the theistic evolutionist must deny that the woman came into existence in this way; hence he must deny that the Bible is true.

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4. **Do you believe Paul told the truth when he said, “MAN IS NOT OF THE WOMAN; BUT THE WOMAN OF THE MAN” (1 Corinthians 11:8)?** If the evolutionary theory is right, males have always come from a female. Paul referred to the woman’s being made from Adam rib, so he evidently believed the Genesis record to be true. He also said God “MADE EVERY NATION OF MEN TO DWELL ON ALL THE FACE OF THE EARTH” (**Acts 17:26**). And Moses wrote that the woman was called Eve because she was the mother of all living (**Genesis 3:20**). If the theory of evolution is right, no one female ape could possibly have been the mother of all human beings. So the one who says he believes the Bible is true, and is the Word of God, but holds that the theory of evolution is the true origin of man is inconsistent. He cannot believe two contradictory theories.
5. **Do you think Jesus told the truth when he said “THE ONE CREATING FROM THE BEGINNING MADE THEM MALE AND FEMALE” (Matthew 19:4)?** The Greek word for *the one creating* refers to God’s act of calling into being that which before did not exist and the Greek word for *made* when used of God, means to create (Vine and Thayer). This same word is used when reference is made to the creation of the world (**Acts 4:24; 17:24; Hebrews 1:2**). So Jesus is on record as saying that God created mankind, both male and female obviously referring to the Genesis record. The theistic evolutionist holds that God created a one-cell creature and that all animal life, including man, came there from. But he has problems. First, that one cell might divide and multiply thereby, but each succeeding division would just be like the first. So when did the different sexes necessary to reproduction come from? If this be true, woman did not come from man as Paul said. So the Bible would not be true.
6. **Do you believe Jesus was born of a virgin, having been begotten miraculously by the Holy Spirit so that He is both God and Man?** The prophets predicted it (**Genesis 3:15, Isaiah 3:6; 7:14**), and the apostles affirmed it (**Matthew 1:20-25; Galatians 4:4**). The creation story of Adam and Eve in Genesis is no more difficult to believe than the story of the begetting and birth of Jesus. Both stories are said to have been “**God breathed**” (**2 Timothy 3:16**), inspired of God. To be saved, we must believe that Jesus is what He claimed to be, the Son of God (John 8:24; Acts 8:37), which He could not have been without the miraculous conception; and we must believe that

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God raised Him from the dead (**Romans 10:9-10**). If God exists, as the theistic evolutionist believes and if He is what He is said in the Bible to be, there is nothing impossible for Him to do. So why not believe the Genesis record of creation?

*From 20 Years of the Problem Page Vol. 1*

[Editor's Note: Brother Lanier was a humble, but very scholarly Gospel preacher. I had to edit his good material somewhat for space considerations. DM]