

# The Theory of Evolution

By Doug Hamilton

We are in a series concerning the religion of Evolution. In the last lesson we covered The Dangers of Evolution. Ultimately the greatest risk of Evolution permeating the culture is that life as it was before will be radically altered leading to a decline and ultimately the demise of the civilization. In this lesson we will focus on The Theory of Evolution.

Acts 17:16-28 Now while Paul was waiting for them at Athens, his spirit was being provoked within him as he was observing the city full of idols.<sup>17</sup> So he was reasoning in the synagogue with the Jews and the God-fearing *Gentiles*, and in the market place every day with those who happened to be present.

- Note: Paul was a logical man that was willing to reason with people. He tended to venture into the synagogues for a friendly debate through the Old Testament scriptures for the purpose to lead them to Christ.
- *Acts 17:2-3 And according to Paul's custom, he went to them, and for three Sabbaths reasoned with them from the Scriptures,<sup>3</sup> explaining and giving evidence that the Christ had to suffer and rise again from the dead, and saying, "This Jesus whom I am proclaiming to you is the Christ."*

<sup>18</sup> And also some of the Epicurean and Stoic philosophers were conversing with him. Some were saying, "What would this idle babbler wish to say?" Others, "He seems to be a proclaimer of strange deities,"—because he was preaching Jesus and the resurrection.<sup>19</sup> And they took him and brought him to the Areopagus, saying, "May we know what this new teaching is which you are proclaiming?"<sup>20</sup> "For you are bringing some strange things to our ears; so we want to know what these things mean."<sup>21</sup> (Now all the Athenians and the strangers visiting there used to spend their time in nothing other than telling or hearing something new.)

- Greece had been the seat of many famous philosophers of the past, including Socrates, Hippocrates, Xenocrates, Plato, Aristarchus, Epicurus and Zeno just to name a few. The last two mentioned, Epicurus and Zeno, had schools of teaching called Epicureanism and Stoicism respectively. They had been around for a few centuries and catered to the elites of Paul's day.
- It is not surprising to see them talking down to Paul. They prided themselves in discovering some new "wisdom" that could fit into their philosophies. Paul would not be intimidated by these elitists, but would use it to Christ's advantage.

<sup>17</sup> So Paul stood in the midst of the Areopagus and said, "Men of Athens, I observe that you are very religious in all respects."<sup>23</sup> "For while I was passing through and examining the objects of your worship, I also found an altar with this inscription, 'TO AN UNKNOWN GOD.' Therefore what you worship in ignorance, this I proclaim to you."<sup>24</sup> "The God who made the world and all things in it, since He is Lord of heaven and earth, does not dwell in temples made with hands;<sup>25</sup> nor is He served by human hands, as though He needed anything, since He Himself gives to all *people* life and breath and all things;<sup>26</sup> and He made from one *man* every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined *their* appointed times and the boundaries of their habitation,<sup>27</sup> that they would seek God, if perhaps they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us;<sup>28</sup> for in Him we live and move and exist, as even some of your own poets have said, 'For we also are His children.'

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- Paul did not start out his address to them like a synagogue visit by reasoning through the scriptures. Paul recognized their religious characteristics, as wrong as they were, and presented them from the common ground. He used the altar “TO AN UNKNOWN GOD” to deal with the missing “Christ Factor” in their lives.
- In his effort to convince them of Jesus he would have to have them on the same page of creation. God made it all and is overall was the theme. With that he connected their religious cravings with a “Savior-less” vacuum. Creation was the common ground to progress to a common Savior. Even in all their futile explanation, they did not question Intelligent Design as the only viable option.
- With that as the setting, let us cover The Theory of Evolution, for we are dealing with another group of philosophers in need of a dose of Creation Reality.

## Definition of a Theory concerning Evolution

Theory (θεωρία) is an ancient philosophy word, meaning "a looking at, viewing, beholding" and refers to contemplation or speculation, as opposed to action and in contrast to practice. Just like the ancient philosophers of Athens, the history of Evolution is littered with countless philosophers throwing out their theories based on their observation and not in true scientific research.

## The Early Evolutionist Philosophers

### Comte de Buffon (1707-1788)

He was a philosopher that popularized the theory that all species originated from each other. It was called biogeography because he taught that there was a common geographical source that animals came from and they changed as they dispersed, either improving or degenerating. He also proposed that the earth formed from a chunk broken off of the sun. Like his other philosophy contemporaries, he offered no proof, only mere speculation.

### Jean-Baptist Lamarck (1744-1829)

His major contribution to the “scientific” community...he theorized. Two theories that rolled around in his head became part of the foundation of the Evolutionary Theory.

#### 1) The Theory of Acquired Characteristics

This was the teaching that states an environment causes changes of adaptation to that condition. For example, Lamarck proposed a giraffe’s neck grew longer in response to the need to eat leaves higher on the trees. In another he proposed that ducks developed web feet to maneuver in the water better.

#### 2) The Theory of Uniformitarianism

This theory proposed that the earth’s geologic conditions have not varied throughout history, but have stayed in an uniformitarianism state. This bad theory would make it possible to base other bad theories on.

Both of these theories have been disproven today, but back then the “Philosophers” fell in love with it.

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## Robert Chambers (1802-1883)

He was a spiritualist and psychic like most philosophers of the day. Under animosity, he published the first popular evolution book in England called Vestiges of the Natural History Creation (1844). Though well received by the elites, it was heavily criticized by the scientists. This was a full fifteen years prior to the writings of Darwin and would pave the way for the others yet to come.

## Charles Lyell (1797-1875)

He was a close personal friend of Charles Darwin and often influenced him with his teachings. He was actually the one who encouraged Darwin to write *Origin of the Species*. Like most of the philosophers of the day, he came from wealth and could spend his life theorizing from his chair while sipping tea. He published *Principles of Geology* in 1830 and it became the basis of the basis of the Theory of Sedimentary Strata, which further popularized Uniformitarianism. Once again, not based on science, but theory.

## Alfred Wallace (1823-1913)

He was the philosopher that actually conceived the “Survival of the Fittest” theory which Darwin would later plagiarize. He was a pagan spiritualist and a Marxist that also failed to use science to prove his theory. In fact his theory is nothing more than circular reasoning: How do you know something was the fittest? It survived the longest. How do you know which one survived the longest? It must be the fittest. There is no wrong answer and hence does not prove a thing.

## Charles Darwin (1809-1882)

- He was born into wealth like most of the others and as a result would not be required to work. He was a medical school dropout that spent most of his time in the bars, barely passing his courses. He had no purpose in life until his father landed him a cushy job as an Anglican minister, a job that he never lived up to.
- An influential relative was able to get him a position as an unpaid “naturalist” on a five-year tour of the world on a ship called the *Beagle*. His wealth allowed him to stare at the nature of the world and “theorize” as to its origin.
- While leaving South America they came to the Galapagos Islands and stayed a few days. It was there that he witnessed some of the finches that had blown in from the mainland. It was his “non-scientific” opinion that he theorized they were a newly evolved sub-species. He was wrong and brought the finches back to England for his proof.
- He authored his publication with the full title *On the Origin of the Species by Means of Natural Selection or the Preservation of Favored Races in the Struggle for Life*. In this writing Darwin would consistently cite sources without actually quoting them. It was full of “maybe”, “probably” and “it is conceivable”. He tried to make it sound scientific, but it was something that modern evolutionists would be ashamed of for the complete lack of science. He promised to answer those criticisms in a later edition that never was put forth. Hence he was intellectually dishonest.
- It is not commonly known that Charles Darwin while on the trip was initiated into witchcraft in South America by the nationals. He took part in their ceremonies that radically changed what little belief in God that he had. Upon his return he spent the rest of his life trying to disprove the Creator.

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These are just some of the many early Evolutionists that set the stage with the theorizing. They really did not use science, but simply bring forth their godless gibberish in an effort to appear smarter.

## Words of advice concerning the philosophers of the world.

- 1 Timothy 6:20 O Timothy, guard what has been entrusted to you, avoiding worldly *and* empty chatter *and* the opposing arguments of what is falsely called “knowledge”—
- Ephesians 5:6 Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience.
- 2 Timothy 2:16-17 But avoid worldly *and* empty chatter, for it will lead to further ungodliness,<sup>17</sup> and their talk will spread like gangrene.

While the philosophers were theorizing from the comfort of their wealth and education, the real scientists were actually doing research and inventing. They did not have time to speculate, but actually carrying it out in practice. Oh by the way, nearly all the scientists were Creationist, yet they thrived in their research. Here are a handful of the scientific contemporaries to the philosophers of the day.

- Francis Bacon (1561-1626) the scientific method of research
- Robert Boyle (1627-1691) chemistry, gas dynamics
- John Ray (1627-1705) natural history, the classification of plants and animals
- Isaac Newton (1642-1727) calculus, dynamics, the law of gravity
- Sir Humphry Davy (1778-1829) thermokinetics
- Sir William Herschel (1738-1822) galactic astronomy
- George Culvier (1769-1832) comparative anatomy
- Michael Farady (1791-1867) electro-magnetics
- Sir David Brewster (1781-1868) optical mineralogy
- Charles Babbage (1792-1871) actuarial tables
- Matthew Maury (1806-1873) oceanography
- Louis Agassiz (1807-1873) glacial geology
- Joseph Henry (1797-1878) electric motor
- Gregor Mendel (1822-1884) genetics
- James Joule (1818-1889) reversible thermodynamics
- Lord William Kelvin (1824-1907) absolute temperature scale
- Joseph Lister (1827-1912) antiseptic surgery
- Samuel Morse (1791-1872) telegraph
- Blaise Pascal (1623-1662) the barometer
- Louis Pasteur (1822-1895) pasteurization, vaccination and immunization
- Rudolph Virchow (1821-1902) pathology
- John Rayliegh (1842-1919) model analysis
- Sir John Flemming (1849-1945) electronics

All these scientists and many countless more were Creationists and they actually engaged in research, invented, discovered and proved it in a practical way. They were Creationist and I

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would appreciate it if the modern day evolutionist would take the time and offer a word of appreciation for their efforts of those that actually were the scientist. Stop allowing the Evolutionary Theorists from intimidating you with their worthless thoughts and the emptiness of words.

- Colossians 2:8 See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deception, according to the tradition of men, according to the elementary principles of the world, rather than according to Christ.