

THE ORIGIN OF MAN AND ORIGINAL CHARACTER OF MAN

Isaiah 45:12 “I have made the earth, and created man upon it: I, even my hands, have stretched out the heavens and all their host have I commanded.”

Intro: For thousands of years men have sprung forth by natural generation; this is without question.

For the Bible believer, the question is: did God create man immediately or mediately? Did God create man by His own hand directly, or did man evolve through natural process? The Christian knows that God was involved, but was it a direct involvement or indirect? Creation or theistic evolution? Some believe that God intervened in the long evolutionary process as Clarkson says: “May we not hold that...God intervened in the past, even in the midst of the long evolutionary process, and created man as an entirely new factor?”

It is my understanding and belief that God created the earth and all that is therein in six literal twenty-four hour days. It was on the sixth day that God created man (Genesis 1:26). According to the scripture, man is the direct and immediate creation of God.

It is not my purpose in this message to argue against the evolutionary theory. I do not believe in evolution, theistic or otherwise. There are a few things that come to my mind as I think about supernatural creation:

1. The heart, the blood, and blood vessels are all indispensable to man. Without blood, man cannot live; without a heart to pump the blood, man cannot live; without blood vessels to carry the blood throughout the body, man cannot live. What is the possibility that all three developed at the same time.
2. Man must have water to live as does all living creatures on the earth. Isn't it wonderful that God placed man on a planet unlike any other, a planet with water to support life.
3. Camels are born with rubbery patches on their knees and belly to help them when as they kneel.
4. The eye of the Octopus is very complex and has great vision. Evolutionists say that the Octopus was a clam that escaped its shell. Clams do not have eyes, but the Octopus has a complex eye. This eye did not evolve; it was created.

I. THE BIBLICAL DEFENSE FOR THE IMMEDIATE CREATION OF MAN

A. The origin of man is explained in a reasonable way when we take the scriptures literally. Henry C. Thiessen says: "Even if evolution could prove the doctrine of the survival of the fittest, it cannot account for the first."

1. In God's Word, we are told that God created man.
 - a. The scriptures teach that God created man (Gen. 1:27; 5:1; Deut. 4:32; Isa. 42:12; 1 Cor. 11:8-12).
 - b. The scriptures say He made, fashioned, or formed man out of the dust of the ground (Gen. 1:26, 2:22; Psalm 100:3, 103:14; 1 Tim. 2:13 "For Adam was first formed [not evolved], then Eve.").
2. As concerns the body, man was made of the dust of the earth or dust of the ground. As concerns his immaterial nature, he was made a living soul by the breath or enbreathing of Almighty God (Gen. 2:7). The following scriptures, Job 33:4 and Eccl. 12:7, include the creation of both body and soul by God.
3. God's direct, immediate creation of man, "gives man a dignity of being and a position of responsibility that no other theory does, and lays the foundations for a sane system of ethics and redemption" (Thiessen 153).

B. The scriptures teach that Adam and Eve were created male and female.

1. Adam and Eve were not subhuman, less than human, before God breathed His image into them. For if they had been, Adam would have already been male, and Eve would have already been female. But the Bible says He made them male and female. In other words, if they had developed through evolution, He would not have made them male and female; for they would have become such by the so called evolutionary process. Think of how far fetched this is! A male and a female developing in the same time frame!
2. Scriptures that teach us that God made them male and female:
 - a. Genesis 1:27: "So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them."

- b. Genesis 2:7: God directly imparts to “man”, Hebrew aw-dawm, meaning mankind, a living soul. In this, evolution is again rebuffed. Man did not evolve into a living soul; God gave him the breath of life directly and he became a living soul. When man was made, he became alive; not at any time before.
 - c. Matthew 19:4: “Have ye not read, that he which made them at the beginning made them male and female.” God made Adam and Eve; they did not evolve.
 - 3. Eve did not evolve for she came from Adam’s side (Gen. 2:21-22; 1 Cor. 11:8). The language of Genesis two will not allow for evolution in the creation of Eve. Adam was made by God for the scripture says: “Let us make man in our image...” (Gen1:26). The idea of “Make” is “to fashion, to produce, to accomplish.”
 - C. Man comes from and returns to the dust. Again we look to Genesis 2:7: “And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground...” Does the dust here have reference to man evolving from gorillas and other beasts? I say no! For if this being formed of the dust means evolution; then returning to the dust, Genesis 3:19 “...for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return,” means returning to being beasts. What is being referred to plainly here is death and decay.
 - D. The Word of God distinguishes between human flesh and animal flesh. There is no allowance for the mixing of human flesh with beast, fish, or fowl. 1 Cor. 15:39: “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.”

II. MAN’S ORIGINAL CHARACTER

- A. Man’s original likeness and condition is stated in scripture.
 - 1. Genesis 1:26: “And God said, let us make man in our image, after our likeness...”
 - 2. Genesis 5:1: “...In the day that God created man, in the likeness of God made he him.”
 - 3. Genesis 9:6; 1 Cor. 11:7
- B. The likeness was not physical likeness.
 - 1. The Bible says that God is a spirit. God does not have members as does a man. He does not have hands and

feet, etc. When we speak of the hand of God we are talking of His works. When we speak of the eye of the Lord, we are talking about His omnipresence.

2. Man did originally have perfect health, no disease and no death. Man's original diet was vegetarian.

C. It was a mental likeness.

1. Man originally had great mental capacity (Genesis 2:18-19).
 - a. Man originally loved what God loved and hated what God hated.
 - b. Originally, man had a perfect temperament without sin and anger.
2. Man lost his perfect knowledge when he fell.
3. Man can be renewed and regain his mental capacity in the knowledge of God. This begins at regeneration: Colossians 3:10: "And put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him."

D. It was a moral likeness.

1. Man had a moral likeness to God. Ephesians 4:24: "And put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness."
2. Ecclesiastes 7:29: "...God hath made man upright; but they have sought many inventions."
3. Regeneration restores man to his original state. In heaven, we will have no limitations for we will not be hindered by the sins of the mind and flesh.

E. It was a social likeness.

1. The social nature of God is grounded in His affections.
2. God endowed man with a social nature.
 - a. Man seeks companionship because of this.
 - b. God also provided human companionship for man. Genesis 2:18: "...It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him." Woman is the completer for the man. The intimacy between man and woman is found in the words of Adam: "...This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man." Human love and affection, as well as social interests, come from the

- nature of God in this area.
- c. God had perfect fellowship with man in the garden. Genesis 3:8: "And they heard the voice of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day..." God desired communion with man, and man enjoyed and desired communion with God as is implied here. That communion was broken by disobedience.
3. It is only through the blood of Jesus Christ that communion and fellowship with God can be renewed. Ephesians 2:13-14a: "But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ. For he is our peace..."

Conclusion: Man is the direct creation of God, and God the creator desires fellowship with man. Romans 5:8: "But God commendeth his love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us."

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