

EVOLUTION NOT SCIENCE

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PRESIDENT OF SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION MAKES FEARLESS, GOD- FEARING ADDRESS ON EVOLUTION

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used more than once in the first chapter of Genesis, the truth of which we may see every day. It is where God says that a thing shall bear 'AFTER HIS KIND, WHOSE SEED IS IN ITSELF.' THAT IS BEING DEMONSTRATED BEFORE OUR EYES DAILY. The persistence of type of species, the resistance to change, is apparent to every observer. You plant wheat and you reap wheat; you do not reap oats. You hatch turkeys from the eggs of a turkey; you do not hatch chickens, not even when a chicken hen sits on turkey eggs. Who ever got a canary bird from the egg of a pigeon? You breed dogs and you get pups; you breed dogs and cats and get you breed dogs and cats and get a hybrid. The mule is a hybrid permitted by God for the utility of man; but the mule, whether male or female, cannot propagate. Hybrids are invariably sterile. An official of the British Museum is quoted as saying: 'IN ALL THIS GREAT MUSEUM THERE IS NOT A PARTICLE OF EVIDENCE OF THE TRANSMUTATION OF SPECIES.'

"God's law, 'after its kind,' is so strongly in force that everyone familiar with animal life recognizes its uniformity and universality. These easily observed things in nature are more in harmony with the traditional interpretation of scripture than are they with the theories of the evolutionist. IF TRANSMUTATION HAS BEEN THE METHOD, IF ONE SPECIES ORIGINATED FROM A DIFFERENT SPECIES, WHY DOES NOT TRANSMUTATION GO ON BEFORE OUR EYES? Why did the Hippus, the boldly proclaimed progenitor of the horse, remain a Hippus from its origin to its extinction? Clearly because the Hippus was always a Hippus. So with man: since God made the first one he has been a man. Does someone ejaculate 'fogyism?' Then let him take the lowest man and the highest monkey and by interbreeding these near relatives produce an offspring and thus demonstrate his theory. Until that is done I must walk in the light of the Bible, experience and common sense.

Elsewhere I have shown that a special creative act of God occurred three times in the first chapter of Genesis precisely where science has the missing links: THE ORIGIN OF MATTER, THE ORIGIN OF LIFE, AND THE ORIGIN OF SOUL. I DO NOT INTEND TO REPEAT THAT EVIDENCE HERE, BUT IT IS SIGNIFICANT THAT A CHAPTER WRITTEN CENTURIES BEFORE THE DISCOVERIES OF MODERN SCIENCE CON-

TAINS THE DATA WHICH SCIENCE CONFESSES IS WANTING IN ITS SPHERE. Genesis reverently understood and Geology properly taught fit each other as glove and hand. One's patience is tried by THE SUPERFICIAL AND FREQUENTLY BLATANT TALK ABOUT THE ALLEGORICAL AND UNSCIENTIFIC LANGUAGE OF GENESIS; BY THE EXTRAVAGANT PULPIT ESTIMATES OF MEN WHO REJECTED THE BIBLE; BY THE LAUDATION OF ALLEGED SCIENTIFIC METHODS TO THE DISPARAGEMENT OF THE FAITH OF OUR FATHERS.

"Instead of emphasizing names and expounding theories which discredit the Book, we should, when occasion admits, DWELL ON THE PHENOMENAL FACT THAT IN THIS RECORD WRITTEN CENTURIES BEFORE SCIENCE UNVEILED THE MODERN TRUTHS OF NATURE THERE IS NOT ONE SCIENTIFIC BLUNDER OR ERROR. We should rejoice that the coincidences and correspondences are so many and so marked that a modern scientist has confessed that 'if one should sketch briefly the celestial mechanism of LaPlace, the Cosmos of Humboldt and the latest system of geology, no simpler and sublimer words could be found than those of Moses.' We should cling to the Bible on the very first page of which the cardinal truths of our faith are indelibly written; the existence, unity, personality, wisdom, power, government, and goodness of God; the gradual consecutive cumulative, and harmonious processes of nature; the origin, free agency, mission, sovereignty and immortality of man. We should hold with tenacious faith the Book of books, the first sentence of which lays the axe to the root of the tree of atheism by announcing God; of polytheism by declaring His oneness; of pantheism by declaring His personality and transcendence; of deism by declaring His activity and government; of agnosticism by positive statements of knowledge; of materialism by affirming the creation of matter and the supremacy of spirit; and of rationalism by presenting the ultimate religious truth as a revelation.

"IT IS NOT FAIR TO SAY THAT THE BIBLE AND SCIENCE ARE AT WAR. THE OUTCRY OF HOSTILITY IS OCCASIONED BY MISUNDERSTANDING AND SPECULATION. Misunderstanding: there is an essential difference between the ground of evangelical knowledge and the ground of scientific knowledge. They represent two hemispheres of the world truth. One is based upon experience, the

other is based upon experiment. A personal experience in one and an accurate experiment in the other will not be contradictory; for what God reveals in His word and in His work necessarily harmonize when both are understood. Speculation: some man with an hypothesis to prove supposes he has found out some new fact and hastens to announce it. An amusing incident occurred in Louisiana a little while ago. Near Shreveport, road builders unearthed some enormous bones in a deep cut they were making through a hill. Wide attention was attracted by the bones. Geologists inspected them and pronounced their verdict with assurance; the remains of some enormous prehistoric animal. They spoke with such finality that their opinion was generally accepted. It was proposed to raise a fund to mount these bones for exhibition in a museum. Unexpectedly, something transpired; an unsophisticated farmer read about the bones in the papers. One day he went to town, called upon an editor and inquired: 'Why all this ado about those bones?' The editor asked if he knew anything about them. 'Surely,' he said, and then told that years ago Barnum and Bailey gave a circus in Shreveport, that one of their largest elephants died, that they secured a permit from him to bury it in his place, and that it was buried on the hill through which the road was cut. Exit the theorists, while laughter convulsed the public.

"We do well to recall Luther's text: 'Forever, O Lord, Thy word is settled in heaven.' Psalm 119: 89. He had it written in charcoal on the walls of his chamber, and wrought in embroidery on the dress of his servants. Earthly changes reach not the heavenly sphere; and there the word of God is fixed beyond the touch of disturbing fingers. Modern science has upset the notions of centuries but it is unable to prove the testimony of Bible to be false. In honesty it should admit concord between ages of the rocks and in the ages of the rock and in the Rock of Ages.

"We also do well to recall that the Lord of Life, the One who broke the bands of the grave and crushed the skull of death, put His imprimatur on the Old Testament. His own words are: 'For had ye believed Moses, ye would have believed me; for Moses wrote of me.' John 5: 46; 'For as Jonah was three days and three nights in the whale's belly; so shall the Son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.' Matt. 12:40; 'For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law till all be fulfilled.' Matt 5: 18. Christ not only put His stamp upon the Old Testament, He pre-authenticated the New Testament. John 16; 12:5. One cannot destroy the validity of the Bible without impeaching the authority of Christ.

"The Bible is the world's most marvelous book. The more it is studied the more marvelous it appears. IT IS MARVELOUS THAT IT USED IN THE CREATION ACCOUNT A WORD FOR DAY (YOM) WHICH MEANS AN INDEFI-

NITE PERIOD OF TIME. (COMPARE GEN. 2: 4; PS. 95: 8; JOHN 8: 56). IT IS MARVELOUS THAT IN THE SAME ACCOUNT THE DAY BEGINS WITH EVENING, AND CHEMICAL LIGHT PRECEDES THE APPEARANCE OF THE SUN JUST AS GEOLOGY TEACHES THAT THE FIRST LIGHT WAS COSMICAL. IT IS MARVELOUS THAT, THOUGH HIPPARCHUS FIXED THE NUMBER OF STARS AT 1,022, AND PTOLEMY AT 1,026, TWENTY TWO HUNDRED YEARS BEFORE GALILEO TURNED THE TELESCOPE ON THE HEAVENS AND DISCLOSED INNUMERABLE STARS, JEREMIAH SAID: 'THE HOST OF HEAVEN CANNOT BE NUMBERED.' IT IS MARVELOUS THAT, SEVERAL THOUSAND YEARS BEFORE COPERNICUS, KEPLER, AND GALILEO TAUGHT THE TRUE LAW OF THE SOLAR SYSTEM, JOB TAUGHT THE EARTH IS NOT FLAT (26:7) AND THAT THE MOVEMENTS OF THE HEAVENLY BODIES DO NOT VARY (38: 12). IT IS MARVELOUS THAT, THOUGH PHILOSOPHERS LIKE ARISTOTLE AND BACON DID NOT BELIEVE THE AIR HAD WEIGHT AND THIRTY CENTURIES BEFORE THE DISCOVERY THAT IT DID, THE OLDEST BOOK IN THE BIBLE SHOULD SAY: 'TO MAKE THE WEIGHT FOR THE WINDS (ATMOSPHERE). JOB. 28: 25. IT IS MARVELOUS THAT, LONG BEFORE REDFIELD ANNOUNCED HIS THEORY OF STORMS SHOWING THAT THEY WERE NOT LAWLESS, SOLOMON SHOULD SAY SUBSTANTIALLY THE SAME THING, ECCLES. 1:6. IT IS MARVELOUS THAT, CENTURIES BEFORE UNINSPIRED MAN DISCOVERED THE LAW OF EVAPORATION AND EXPLAINED HOW THE WATERS WHICH FLOW TO THE SEA DO NOT OVERFLOW BUT RETURN IN VAPOR TO WATER THE LAND, THE BIBLE SHOULD STATE THE FACT EXPLICITLY: 'ALL THE RIVERS RUN INTO THE SEA; YET THE SEA IS NOT FULL; UNTO THE PLACE FROM WHENCE THE RIVERS CAME, THITHER THEY RETURN AGAIN.' ECCLES 1:7. IT IS MARVELOUS THAT TWENTY-SIX CENTURIES BEFORE HARVEY DISCOVERED THE CIRCULATION OF THE BLOOD THE BIBLE SHOULD, IN A POETIC DESCRIPTION OF DEATH, DESCRIBE THE SPINAL MARROW (THE SILVER CORD), THE SKULL WHICH ENCLOSES THE BRAIN (THE GOLDEN BOWL), THE LUNGS (THE PITCHER AT THE FOUNTAIN), THE HEART (THE WHEEL AT THE CISTERN) —A 'WHEEL PUMPING UP THROUGH ANOTHER.' ECCES. 12: 6f. SO MARVELOUS ARE THESE AND OTHER FACTS THAT SO COMPETENT AN AUTHORITY AS SIR JOHN HERSHEL EXPRESSED THE OPINION 'ALL HUMAN DISCOVERIES SEEM TO BE MADE ONLY FOR THE PURPOSE

OF CONFIRMING MORE STRONGLY THE TRUTHS THAT HAVE COME DOWN FROM ON HIGH AND ARE CONTAINED IN THE SACRED WRITINGS.'

'A glory gilds the sacred page
Majestic like the sun;
It gives but to every age,

It gives but borrows none.
"The Bible is a fortress which has withstood every attack from Celsus to Percy Stickney Grant. Men have hurled against it the paper wads of their own fanciful theories ignited from their own powder. There it stands like Jackson at Manassas, 'a stone wall,' like Gibraltar at whose base the waves break in fury. The Bible is an anvil upon which infidels have beaten and broken their hammers.

'Last eve I stood beside the
blacksmith's door
And heard the anvil ring the
vesper chime;
Then looking in, I saw upon the
floor
Old hammers worn with beating
years of time.

"How many anvils have you
had," said I,
"To wear and batter these
hammers so?"
"Only one," said he, "the anvil
Wears the hammers out, you
know."

And so, I thought, the anvil of
God's word
For ages skeptics' blows have
beat upon,
And though the sound of falling
blows was heard,
The anvil is unhurt—the
hammers gone.'

"THE BIBLE IS A BRIDGE
SPANNING THE DEEP RIVER
OF LIFE, BUILT OF
STEEL AND CONCRETE BY
INSPIRED WORKMEN. THE
FOAMING FLOODS HAVE
NEVER SHAKEN ITS ADAMANTINE
FOUNDATION. IT HAS NEVER
NEEDED REPAIR AND NO ONE
NEED DOUBT ITS SECURITY. ON
ITS STONE FLOOR, WORN
SMOOTH BY THE FEET OF
DEVOUT PILGRIMS, MILLIONS
HAVE CROSSED ON TO GLORY
AND BY IT WE MUST CROSS
OVER IF WE WOULD WALK WITH
SAFETY.

"The Bible is a flower garden. Its lessons are fresher than the unmelted dew on the morning rose. Its truths are sweeter than the honey of Hymettus. Christian, go learn of the bee. It lights and lingers upon the flower where the sweet juices are stored 'in a flask fairer than alabaster.' It sucks the honey and needs no other proof that the flowercup holds the nectar. It fills its sack and spreads its heavy laden wings for its return flight to the hive to make food for the young and sweets for man. Go thou and do likewise. Extract the nectar from the blossoms which bloom on every page of Holy Writ. Store the symmetrical cells of memory and heart with the treasures of God's truth and impart these riches to others. Find thy delight in patient, prayerful penetration of God's Word and thy duty in conveying its truths to those who have them not. Say with the Psalmist:
How sweet are thy words to my taste!
Yea, sweeter than honey to my

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