

# THOUGHTS ON "THE ORIGIN"



*by: Joseph Stanley Rees*

## Thoughts on The Origin

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It was once stated that “Babies are such a nice way to start people.” It was also stated that the definition of evolution is “When scientists made monkeys of themselves.” Where did man come from? Was he created from the depths of the primordial ooze, or did he have a more divine beginning. Some would even ask, did the Divine creator use the primordial ooze to create man. Within the pages of this text, the ideas of Charles Darwin will be carefully scrutinized. Also, the ideas of the prophets of the Latter-Day Saints will be quoted. The ideas will be presented as the author sees them, and the reader may take from the pages of this paper, whatever they will.

First, we will discuss the ideas of Charles Darwin from a purely scientific point of view. We will discuss both what the man himself has said, and what those about him have since said. Darwin put forth a series of theories, which have somehow all been rolled into one theory known today as “evolution.” Unfortunately, it is difficult, if not impossible, to lump all of the topics covered within his thesis under one blanket, and then intelligently accept or deny the whole. We will, therefore, split the thesis put forth in his “Origin of the Species” into two parts. We will discuss these parts separately. The two parts will be labeled as the theory of “Natural Selection” and the second will be labeled as “Inter-Specie Mutation.” The first of the ideas has become known as Darwin’s law of “Survival of the fittest.” This portion of the theory states that the strongest attributes of a specie will enable it to survive, and therefore, this attribute will be reinforced by mother nature. It also states that the species with the strongest attributes will outlive the species of lesser attributes. This theory can be seen in practice today. The interplay between prey and predator is only one example of such selection in action. The author states here that he is in no way opposed to such a theory. It is clear to see that animal and man alike will adapt to their surroundings, or will perish. The problem arises within the second theory. “Inter-Specie Mutation” states that man evolved from lesser forms. It further states that all life began as an accident in a “primordial soup.” The conditions were to be exact after a specified amount of time, and life would just begin, from that which had no life before. Before we continue, it should be noted that not one such example can be found in the world today. (Except one such experiment performed by the author, in which the lunch meat of his refrigerator evolved into a sentient life form after being left there for some extended time period, without cleaning.) Could a cell by chance come into being that “has the DNA instructions to fill one thousand 600-page books?” (National Geographic). Let us consider herein some basic facts and questions about species:

1. Natural Selection cannot produce new genes; it only selects among pre-existing characteristics.
2. Mendel’s laws of genetics explain virtually all of the physical variations that are observed within life categories such as the dog family. A logical consequence of these laws and their modern day refinements is that there are limits to such variation.
3. The many similarities between different species do not necessarily imply a genealogical relationship; they may imply a common designer.
4. The human body (or the body of any other creature) cannot live without most internal organs, such as the heart, the lungs, the liver, et cetera. Remove any of these organs, and the specimen dies. This implies that the entire body was created at one point in time.
5. Mutations are the only proposed mechanism by which new genetic material becomes available for evolution.
6. Almost all observable mutations are harmful; many are fatal.
7. No known mutation has ever produced a form of life having both greater complexity and greater viability than its ancestors.
8. Over seventy years of fruit-fly experiments, equivalent to 2700 human generations, give no basis for believing that any natural or artificial process can cause an increase in either complexity or viability. No clear genetic improvement has been observed despite the many unnatural efforts to increase mutation rates. In addition, no ‘new’ life form has been produced by mutation. No fruit fly ‘evolved’ into a mosquito or a bee.
9. There is no evidence that mutations could ever produce any new organs such as the eye, the ear, or the brain.

10. If the earth, early in its alleged 'evolution', had oxygen in its atmosphere, the chemicals needed for life would have been removed by oxidation. But if there had been no oxygen, then there would have been no ozone, and without ozone all life would be quickly destroyed by the sun's ultraviolet radiation.
11. Two aspects ignored by studies of the origin of life are:
  - a. The beauty of the different forms of life.
  - b. The symmetry of virtually all forms of life.
 Evolutionary scientists ignore these aspects, primarily because these two things suggest a Creator. Virtually all recorded mutations produce malformed, 'non-evolutionary' changes in the subject under study.
12. Based on present day observations, DNA can only be replicated or reproduced with the help of certain enzymes. But these enzymes can only be produced at the direction of DNA. Since each requires the other, a satisfactory explanation for the origin of one must simultaneously explain the other. So which came first, the chicken or the egg?
13. Earthly life forms reproduce after their own kind. Different animals do not inter-breed. (There is the exception of the horse and donkey, but this produces a mule which has no power to procreate further. . . nature stops itself from crossing this boundary) This suggests that each of these life forms were distinctly created. Cats and dogs do not interbreed to produce 'cat-dogs.' Therefore it is highly unlikely that different life forms were formed by species interbreeding.

Let us consider a few thoughts and questions about the fossil record:

1. Stories claiming that primitive, ape-like men have been found are overstated. Piltdown man was an acknowledged hoax. The fragmentary evidence that constituted Nebraska man was a pig's tooth. The discoverer of Java man later acknowledged that it was a large gibbon and that he had withheld evidence to that effect. The 'evidence' concerning Peking man has disappeared. Louis and Mary Leakey, the discoverers of zinjanthropus (previously referred to by some as Australopithecus), later admitted that they were probably apes. Ramapithecus man consists merely of a handful of teeth and jaw fragments; his teeth are very similar to those of the gelada baboon living today. For about 100 years the world was led to believe that Neanderthal man was stooped and ape-like. Recent studies show that this individual was crippled with arthritis and probably had rickets. Neanderthal man, Heidelberg man, and Cro-Magnon man are similar to humans living today. Artist's depictions, especially of the fleshy portions of the body, are quite imaginative and are not supported by evidence. Furthermore, the dating techniques are highly questionable (this will be discussed later in the thesis.)
2. Many of the world's fossils show, by the details of their soft fleshy portions, that they were buried before they could decay. This, together with the occurrence of polystrate fossils (fossils that traverse two or more strata of sedimentary rock) in Carboniferous, Mesozoic, and Cenozoic formations, is unmistakable *evidence that this sedimentary material was deposited rapidly - not over hundreds of millions of years.*
3. Many fossils of modern looking humans have been found deep in rock formations that are supposedly many millions of years older than evolutionary theory would predict. These remains are ignored or even suppressed by evolutionists.
4. The worldwide fossil record is evidence of the rapid death and burial of animal and plant life by a flood; it is not evidence of slow change.
5. If 'evolution' had occurred, the fossil record should show continuous and gradual changes from the bottom to the top layers and between all forms of life. Just the opposite is found. Many complex species appear suddenly in the lowest layers, and innumerable gaps and discontinuities appear throughout.
6. If sexual reproduction in plants, animals, and humans is a result of 'evolution,; and absolutely unbelievable series of chance events would have had to occur. First, the complex and completely different reproductive systems of the male must have completely and independently evolved at about the same time and place as those of the female. A slight incompleteness in just one of the two would make both systems useless, and natural selection would oppose their survival. Second, the physical and emotional systems of the male and female would also need to be compatible. Third, the complex products of the male reproductive system (pollen or sperm) would have to have an affinity for and a mechanical and chemical compatibility with the eggs from the female reproductive system. Fourth,

the intricate and numerous processes occurring at the molecular level inside the fertilized egg would have to work with fantastic precision the very first time it happened - processes which scientists can only describe in an aggregate sense. And finally, the environment of the fertilized egg, from conception until it also reproduces with another sexually capable "brother or sister," would have to be controlled to an unbelievable degree. And if these processes did not occur at precisely the right time, then one must restart this incredible chain of events near zero. The odds then become so astronomical that they insult the intelligence of anyone with common sense. The 'facts' of evolution are already difficult enough to believe, without stretching them any further. Either this series of incredible events occurred by random processes, or else an Intelligent Designer created sexual reproduction.

Let us now consider some thoughts on the creation of the Earth and solar system according to evolution, or "Big Bang Theory":

According to ALL theories on the evolution of the solar system:

1. The planets should all rotate on their axes in the same direction; Venus and Uranus rotate backwards.
2. All 42 moons of the various planets should revolve in the same direction; at least 11 revolve backwards.
3. The orbits of these 42 moons should all lie in the equatorial plane of the planet they orbit; many, including the earth's moon, are highly inclined.
4. The material of the earth (and Mars, Venus, and Mercury) should almost all be hydrogen and helium - similar to that of the Sun and the rest of the visible universe; actually much less than 1% of the earth's mass is hydrogen or helium.
5. The sun should have 700 times more angular momentum than the planets; the planets have 50 times more angular momentum than the Sun.
6. If the moon formed from particles orbiting earth, other particles should be easily visible inside the moon's orbit; none are.
7. One Postulation of the First Law of thermodynamics states that the energy of our universe is constant, or 'conserved'. Countless experiments have shown that regardless of the energy conversion process, the total amount of energy (or its mass equivalent) remains constant. A corollary of the First Law is that no energy can be created. Since the universe obviously has energy, that energy must have been created in the past when the First Law was not operating. Since the energy of the universe could not have created itself, something external must have created it.

Next, let us look at the dating methods of both fossils and the Earth itself:

1. Any estimated date prior to the beginning of written records must necessarily assume that the dating clock has operated at a known rate, that the initial setting of the clock is known, and that the clock has not been disturbed. These assumptions are not verifiable, and are not necessarily reliable.
2. A major assumption that underlies all radioactive dating techniques is that the rates of decay, which have been essentially constant over the past 70 years, have also been constant over the past 200,000,000 years. This bold, critical, and untestable assumption is made even though no one knows what causes radioactive decay.
3. Pleochroic halos, tiny spheres of discoloration produced by the radioactive decay of particles that are encased in various crystals, show that the earth's crust was NEVER in a molten state. Furthermore, these halos suggest that the rate of radioactive decay was NOT constant, and in fact, varied by MANY orders of magnitude from that observed today.
4. Radioactive decay methods, such as the carbon-14 method, rely on the fact that water was not a large part of the equation. Water tends to accelerate the radioactive decay process, which is why radioactive waste from nuclear power plants is submerged in water before disposal. If the fossil records are correct in their record of a massive world-wide flood, then the radioactive particle decay of almost all rock formations would be tainted through water acceleration. The end result: the earth looks many orders of magnitude older than it really is. Living snails have been dated at 2,300 years old by the carbon-dating method.

5. Many human artifacts have been dated back 2-4 million years (such as a doll and a coin). This contradicts the evolutionary theory that man has just recently been highly sentient, or, the fact that the dating method is in all accuracy.
6. Human footprints in rock have been dated back 150-600 million years old. (Found in Utah, Pennsylvania, Missouri, and Kentucky)
7. Human foot prints are found alongside dinosaur footprints in the rock formations of the Paluxy riverbed in Texas. Both were dated to the same time period. Evolutionary theory states that man fit much further along in the evolutionary chain than dinosaurs.
8. Measurements made at hundreds of sites worldwide indicate that the concentration of radiocarbon in the atmosphere rose quite rapidly at some time prior to 3,500 years ago. If this happened, a radiocarbon age of 40,000 years could easily correspond to a true age of 5,000 years.
9. Direct measurements of the earth's magnetic field over the past 140 years show a steady and rapid decline in its strength. This decay pattern is consistent with the theoretical view that there is an electrical current inside the earth which produces the magnetic field. If this view is correct, then 25,000 years ago the electrical current would have been so vast that the earth's structure could not have survived the heat produced. This would imply that the earth could not be older than 25,000 years.
10. Similar measurements of the Sun have been made and have shown a constant shrink rate of 5 feet per hour of the Sun. Its gravitational field is also weakening. Records of solar eclipses show that this shrinkage has been going on for at least the past 400 years. According to evolutionists, the millions of years ago could not have existed, or the Sun would have killed all life before it began.
11. If man and languages evolved together, the earliest languages should be the simplest. On the contrary, as one studies languages that are increasingly ancient, such as Latin (200 B.C.), Greek (800 B.C.), and Vedic Sanskrit (1500 B.C.), they become INCREASINGLY COMPLEX with respect to syntax, cases, genders, moods, voices, tenses, and verb forms. The evidence indicates that languages do not Evolve, they Devolve.

The curator of the British Museum has remarked, "Nine-tenths of the talk of evolutionists is sheer nonsense, not founded on observation, and wholly unsupported by the facts. This museum is full of proofs of the utter falsity of their views. In all of this great museum there is not a particle of evidence of the transmutation of any species." (Dr. Ethridge)

Then, there is also the question of the origin of matter. The creationist believes that a Creator created matter. Where does the evolutionist say matter came from? Why, it came from the 'Big Bang'. Hold it. I didn't say, "how did matter come into its present form?" I said, "Where did matter come from?" The evolutionist might say it condensed into this big blob before the 'Big Bang'. Well, you missed me again. I asked, "Where did it come from?" The point is, the evolutionist has no answer for this question. If matter condensed from energy, as some evolutionists now say, where did that energy come from? The evolutionist's position does not deal with the infinite. Evolutionists have a belief in some higher power, though, they must. They believe in a power that overrules the Second Law of Thermodynamics. A corollary of this law says that systems of matter do not evolve into more organized states, as the evolutionists say it did after the 'Big Bang'.

Sir Julian Huxley ( a supporter of evolution) stated that "Evolution is an ANTI-ENTROPIC process, running counter to the Second Law of Thermodynamics, with its degradation of energy and its tendency to uniformity."

Sir Gavin de Beer, a devout evolutionist said "The attempt to find homologous genes except in closely related species is hopeless. Organs such as the eye preserve their similarity in structure, but the genes responsible for the organ must have become altered during the evolutionary process."

Here he is stating that mutations produced the same results, but with different combinations of genes. Incredulous. Evolutionism is a belief as much as creationism is. D. S. Watson said, "Evolution is a theory fully accepted not because it can be proven by biological coherent evidence, but because the only alternative, special creation, is clearly incredible."

Charles Darwin said “NOT ONE CHANGE OF SPECIES INTO ANOTHER IS ON RECORD. WE CANNOT PROVE THAT A SINGLE SPECIES HAS EVER CHANGED.”

Second, we will discuss the idea that God created man. We will also see how the idea that man was created from the primordial ooze, under the direction of God, measures up to LDS Doctrine and the LDS scriptures. “In the beginning, God created the Heaven and the Earth.” (Genesis 1:1). Within the text of this verse and the verses that follow, we find that this word ‘create’ is used often. It is interesting to look at the source of this word. This word, as used within these passages, comes from the Hebrew word ‘Baurau’ (Spelling used merely to emphasize pronunciation), which word means, literally, to ‘organize.’ This word does not suggest creation ‘ex nihilo,’ which means to bring something into existence from nothing. The Apostle Neal Maxwell once said of this, “Zero plus zero always equals zero.” We know from the scriptures that the man Adam was the first man upon the Earth. The book of Moses tells us that Adam was the “son of God,” who “walked and talked with God.” (Moses 6:22) President John Taylor taught: “Who formed man according to the Bible record? The Lord. Whence came our spirits? We are told that God is the God and Father of the spirits of all flesh. . . . Our spirits are eternal and emanate from God. . . . We possess our bodies also, and they also emanate from God. The Bible tells us something in relation to these matters in tracing our genealogies. Who was Seth? He was the son of Adam. Who was Adam? The son of God.” (JD, XXVI, p.33) “Man has descended from God; In fact, he is of the same race as the Gods. His descent has not been from a lower form of life, but from the Highest Form of Life; in other words, man is, in the most literal sense, a child of God. This is not only true of the spirit of man, but of his body also. There never was a time, probably, in all the eternities of the past, when there was not men or children of God. This world is only one of many worlds which have been created by the Father through His Only Begotten. (Course of Study for Priests, 1910, under the subject, “The Creation of Man.” Cited in Deseret News; Church Section, op. Cit. p.8) The First Presidency (Joseph F. Smith, John R. Winter, Anthony H. Lund) put forth a Formal Doctrinal Pronouncement stating that “All who have inhabited the Earth since Adam have taken bodies and become souls in like manner. The first of our race began life as the human germ, or embryo that becomes a man.” It would seem clear that Adam was “the son of God.” The prophet Joseph Smith had something to say about being a son. He stated that “Where was there ever a son without a father? And where was there ever a father without first being a son? Wherever did a tree or anything spring into existence without a progenitor? And everything comes in this way.” (DHC, VI, p. 476) In other words, this law of creation stands true for the man Adam as well. President Young also spoke more concerning the record kept in Genesis. He stated, “I believe that the declaration made in these two scriptures [Genesis 1:26,27] is literally true. God has made His children like Himself to stand erect, and has endowed them with intelligence and power and dominion over all His works and given them the same attributes which He Himself possesses. *He created man as we create our children; for there is no other process of creation in heaven, on the earth, or under the earth, or in all the eternities, that is, or were, or ever will be.*” (JD, XI, p.122) “Things were first created spiritually; the Father actually begat the spirits, and they were brought forth and lived with Him. Then He commenced the work of creating earthly tabernacles, precisely as He had been created in this flesh Himself, by partaking of the coarse material that was organized and composed this earth until His system was charged with it, consequently the tabernacles of His children [Adam and Eve] were organized from the coarse materials of this earth.” (JD, IV, p.218) “When you tell me that father Adam was made as we make adobes from the earth, you tell me what I deem an idle tale. When you tell me that the beasts of the field were produced in this manner, you are speaking idle words devoid of meaning. There is no such thing in all the eternities where the Gods dwell. Mankind are here because they are the *offspring of parents* [i.e. Heavenly Father and Mother]. . . .” (JD, VII, p.285) The Prophet Joseph F. Smith stated that “Adam our early parent, was also born of woman into this world, the same as you and I.” (Deseret Evening News, Dec. 27, 1913, Sec. III, p.7. Quoted in Deseret News; Church Section, Sept 19, 1936, pp. 2,8) The First Presidency in 1909 stated that “The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, basing its belief on divine revelation, ancient and modern, proclaims man to be the direct and lineal offspring of Deity.”

It would seem consistent to say that man is the literal offspring of Deity and that he did not descend from lower forms of life in any such way or manner. Worlds without number are populated with sons and daughters of Deity. The scriptures tell us that this is ‘one eternal round’. Brigham Young taught, “There never has been a time when there have not been worlds like this, and . . . there never will be a time

when there will not be worlds organized and prepared for intelligent beings to dwell upon (in Journal of Discourses, 8:81). “And they are continually coming into existence, and undergoing changes and passing through the same experience we are passing through. . . . and every earth, and the people thereof, in their turn and time, receive, and pass through all the ordeals that we are passing through” (in Journal of Discourses, 14:71-72).

Finally, animals were created before Adam and Eve upon the Earth. The scriptures record this. We have an interesting statement made within the scriptures about the origin of life. In 2 Nephi 2:22-24 we read:

22 And now, behold, if Adam had not transgressed he would not have fallen, but he would have remained in the garden of Eden. *And all things which were created must have remained in the same state in which they were after they were created; and they must have remained forever, and had no end.*

23 And they would have had no children; wherefore they would have remained in a state of innocence, having no joy, for they knew no misery; doing no good, for they knew no sin.

24 But behold, all things have been done in the wisdom of him who knoweth all things.

We read that everything would have remained the same as the state in which it was created, and that no children could be formed. Therefore, we must realize that God created the animals in a final state, not evolving them. The theory of evolution itself depends on death and birth and change - all of which are contradicted by this verse of scripture concerning the period of time known as the creation. On a side note, the author believes that the Lord does not allow worlds to mix. I also believe, as does Bruce R. McConkie, that animals are resurrected. “. . . that eventual status when all men (and all forms of life, every living thing that has ever breathed the breath of life, every animal, fish, fowl, or what have you!) will come forth as immortal, resurrected beings and creatures.” (Bruce R. McConkie, Mormon Doctrine, p. 256) I therefore conclude, that, since dinosaur remains are found upon this earth, the animals must not have been resurrected, yet. And therefore, they must have been a part of this earth. They also must have been around during the periods of Adam, Eve, and their children. For how long, I do not know, but I believe that the flood would have been a major cause of such extinction as they have foregone. Therefore, I disagree with the belief that dinosaurs are a remnant of other worlds which the Lord pieced together to build ours. Indeed, if this theory were true, then how could other worlds be resurrected, as we know that our own is to be? The Lord completes His work without leftover. He is the perfect planner, and the perfect designer. We are His Children.

In Conclusion, the falsehoods in the theory of evolution (specifically inter-specie mutation) would have us believe that we have no divine heritage. Our path and choice of determination of truth is clear. We must choose that which is true, and which has clearly been revealed as such. We must not allow ourselves to degrade our nature as divine heirs of a Loving God. We must not allow our minds to be tempted to put one foot in the world. In other words, we must not be persuaded to keep portions of this doctrine alive. We must not try and mix our beliefs with that which some scientists believe to be true. We must not even think for a moment that God used evolution to create us. To do so is to mix doctrine with devil. Pure and simple, these ideas are falsehoods that teach us to be animals. There is no such fantasy as is perpetrated by Atheist and fence-sitters alike.