

*WitnessKit 2*  
*God And Creation*

Class 13  
African Eve

Dr. Francis Collins, leader of the human genome project, speaking about his work...

- **"Together, we determined all three billion letters of the human genome, our own DNA instruction book, and made all those data freely available on the Internet every 24 hours. It is hard to get your mind around how much information this is. ... Suppose we decided to take a little time this morning to read the letters of the human genome together, just to express our awe at God's creation. If we took turns reading, and agreed to stick with it until we were all the way through, we would be here for 31 years! And you have all that information inside **each** of the 100 trillion cells of **your body.**"** –Cal Thomas, "President Obama's Excellent Choice" TOWNHALL.COM July 16, 2009

# The “African Eve” Theory of Human Origins

Is based upon genetics, although from a much less complicated form than the entire human genome.

- The African Eve experiment looked at the **mitochondrial DNA** of a diverse group of women from around the world.
- The goal was to learn if their genetic information was consistent with a singular common ancestor for all women in the world.

# Why mtDNA?

- Every human cell has 1000 or more duplicate copies of mitochondrial DNA. So mtDNA is easier to collect in volume than chromosomal DNA.
- The mitochondria are transmitted in the ovum to the new offspring, so are thought not to contain any genetic material from the father.

# Reason to rejoice in the findings regarding African Eve!

- The Neandertal museum in Germany a few years ago espoused a multiple location human origins theory. This seems unreasonable from a statistical standpoint. But it also could easily be used as support for racism.
- The current theory of multiple origin locations is called the **Multiregional Continuity Model**.
- The theory of a single origin location is called the **African Eve** or **Out of Africa** model.

# Dr. Lubenow expresses

frustration with the politicization of science in the human evolution story. He is concerned that the African Eve model has gained popularity because of its implications for a common African ancestor among all living humans, rather than its scientific validity. **When science becomes politicized, its quality goes down. Challenging the prevailing orthodoxy becomes a forbidden exercise.**

# Politicization

- Political correctness is not a scientific technique! Science is supposed to be independent of such matters.
- However, the politicization of the African Eve theory is a contrarily good thing, because the science of human evolution was already desperately inadequate, and the politicization reflects something else that is VERY important.

# The Politicization reflects **the presence of moral universals....**

In the hearts of scientists who deny their **Source.**

- A Good God is the only source for moral universals.
- The **equality of all human beings** is a direct expression of those moral universals.
- When the scientists choose the African Eve model for moral reasons, they are choosing against their own materialist theory, which denies that moral universals exist.

# Special Creation

Special Creation of Humans tells us we are all related—descendants of the same ancestors. This agrees with the moral code written on our consciences. The Deist, Thomas Jefferson, expressed that as “We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal and are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights.”

- The human problem is that people violate their consciences, even as Jefferson did in owning slaves. Evolution has no answer for correcting that human problem. A Biblical worldview has answers.

# It is a wonderful thing

That moral universals are so inescapable. And it is a wonderful thing that God will be completely fair when He judges each of us—even by the standards we know in our own consciences.

# It is also a wonderful thing

That genetic research is beginning to challenge the human evolution story! Genetic research is quantifiable, and is independent of hominid bone fossils, and so provides a balance. It has the potential to falsify the story from another direction. The African Eve experiment is fascinating.

# Everyone should gain confidence in their special Creation by God

## Techniques

by using these techniques to study “African Eve.”

1. Separate data from assumptions.
2. Separate data from conclusions.
3. Analyze the data using better assumptions.
4. Find points of comparison with special creation of humans.

# Technique #1: Separate Data from Assumptions.

The African Eve model assumes humans and chimpanzees evolved from a common ancestor.

**Chimpanzee DNA** is used as a basis for the study of **human** mitochondrial DNA. Chimpanzee MtDNA is much more variable than human MtDNA—which should make the starting point elusive.

Index fossils are used to date the study, and the basis is a **supposed** human ancestor-chimpanzee ancestor split **5 to 7 million** years ago. We can average that to 6 million +/- 1 million for simplicity. The dates are totally dependant upon evolutionary assumptions.

# Technique #1: Separate Data from Assumptions.

Since we want to look at the data *apart from* evolutionary assumptions, we will set the dates aside and look for the minimalist, certain conclusions that can be drawn from the study.

# Tool #1: Separate Data from Assumptions.

1. All changes in mitochondrial DNA are assumed to come only from mutations.
2. All MtDNA is assumed to come from the mother's line only.
3. **The rate of mutation is assumed constant**, and is **assumed to correlate** with a 5 to 7 million year ago human-ancestor /chimpanzee-ancestor split.
4. The computer program calculated the most efficient mutation chain when it calculated the dates for changes in the lineage.

# A side issue

- The most efficient chain is unlikely to produce **continuous better adaptability** at each shift. This assumption does not actually allow for “survival of the fittest” to have worked.
- So this assumption is extremely optimistic and fits a “guiding hand” better than survival of the fittest. It is an understandable simplification, since any alternate mutation path is unknown.
- Of course, a Guiding Hand is censored from any discussion as unscientific and unnecessary—so our look at the data will cover more possibilities than the actual report.

# Technique #1: Separate Data and Assumptions.

- The human evolutionary theory is so intertwined in the assumptions of the study that the conclusions are not a statement of the meaning of the data.
- The conclusions simply restate the assumptions and elaborate on the theme—assuming Africa to be the starting point because mtDNA is more diverse in Africa at present than in other parts of the world.
- The data are a small factor in the conclusions.

# The Data: African Eve

- The data are descriptions of the mitochondrial DNA from **136 living women** from around the world. (This is a very small sample size, and may not be representative enough for drastic conclusions.)
- The computer program used to analyze the data showed that **all could go back to a single form** by making repeated tiny changes in the code sequence.
- **Thus a single female ancestor of all the women in the world is possible.**

## Technique #2: Separate Data from Conclusions.

- The computer program predicted an African origin for the first human woman from whom everyone else was born.
- This is deemed consistent with the idea that the most diversity of MtDNA is found in Africa.
- However, **the point of origin varied with the order in which data were input to the program.**
- (My comment: The Biblical location of Eden is near Africa. Such a fine difference in geography is outside the precision range of the data.)

## Technique #2: Separate Data from Conclusions.

- The analysis using evolutionary dating and assumptions predicted a migration out of Africa **2 million years ago** of extinct side chain relatives of modern humans such as Neandertals and Homo Erectus. (The study did not look at their mtDNA, however.)
- (Dr. Lunenow dislikes the implications of this theory for dehumanizing Neandertals and Homo Erectus, even though the theory equalizes all modern human races.)

# Technique #2: Separate Data from Conclusions.

- According to their analysis, African Eve—their designation for the human woman from whom all modern humans descended—lived about **200,000 years ago**. Their dates are based on index fossils.
- Her descendants migrated out of Africa between **100,000 and 150,000 years ago**. They replaced the earlier migrants such as Neandertal and Homo Erectus.

## Technique #2: Separate Data from Conclusions.

- According to the theory, African Eve was the sole survivor to produce modern humans out of 10,000 contemporaries in Africa. (Does it not seem odd that only one of 10,000 would have managed to pass on MtDNA if the evolution story were true?)
- Notice that the idea of 10,000 contemporaries is not based upon finding 10,000 human fossils in one place, or anything like that. The story is rather elaborate for the amount of historical data.

# Technique #3: Analyze the Data Using Better Assumptions.

- The dating of every event described in the conclusions is indeterminate, because the dates are based upon **assuming** that humans evolved from animals. Circular reasoning is involved.
- The story about migrations has **nothing** to do with the actual data. The data are simply sequences of MtDNA code.

# Technique #3: Analyze the Data Using Better Assumptions.

- The dating is indeterminate.
- The story about migrations has **nothing** to do with the actual data.
- The data are sequences of MtDNA code from living, breathing humans.
- The only thing the experiment tells us is that all of us COULD have come from one human woman. **Thus, nothing in MtDNA data from this study contradicts Genesis.**

## Technique #4: Find Points of Comparison with Special Creation of Humans.

According to the Bible, we all did come from one human woman—the first one created, named Eve.

- She did not have to compete with 10,000 contemporaries to pass on her MtDNA to all the surviving humans, because she did not HAVE 10,000 contemporaries.
- The only actual fact to come from the African Eve study is compatible with special creation.
- The only fact is that one female ancestor is possible for the entire human race.

## Technique #4: Find Points of Comparison with Special Creation of Humans.

- The only fact is that one female ancestor is possible for the entire human race.
- This is not the conclusion the evolutionists want you to draw from their study. They want you to believe their story about migrations and dates.
- However, it is the only certain conclusion from the data.
- Thus, African Eve verifies that Special Creation of human beings by God is PLAUSIBLE.

# We can gain confidence in God's Creation by Comparing and Contrasting

## Comparing and Contrasting

Two models of human evolution.

1. The Out of Africa model and the Multiregional Continuity model disagree with each other.
2. Each model agrees with Creationists in surprising ways.

## The Out of Africa model and the Multiregional Continuity model disagree with each other.

- Dr. Lubenow's terms for the two groups are "lumpers" and "splitters." "Lumpers" follow the Multiregional Continuity Model of human evolution.
- "Splitters" follow the Out of Africa theory.
- Each group would draw a different set of hominids in their "parade"—the famous picture of hominids all in a row.

# The Out of Africa model and the Multiregional Continuity model disagree with each other.

- Multiregionalists believe humans, Neandertals, and Homo Erectus are all humans, in the same category.
- African Eve adherents believe in multiple extinctions for side chains of hominids such as Neandertals and Homo Erectus. They believe Neandertals are sub-human.

# The Out of Africa model and the Multiregional Continuity model disagree with each other.

- The differences between the two approaches are rather elaborate. Each group has its own chronology for human events, and they do not agree with each other at all.
- The differences between the two groups tell us one thing: **The human evolution story is VERY UNCERTAIN.**

# The Out of Africa model and the Multiregional Continuity model disagree with each other.

- THAT conclusion agrees with the fossil charts in the back of Lubenow's book— the human evolution story is uncertain because IT DID NOT HAPPEN THAT WAY.
- Anatomically-modern humans cover the whole range of the chart. We did not evolve from other hominids. We were people from the start.

# We can gain confidence in God's Creation by Comparing and Contrasting

## Comparing and Contrasting

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1. The Out of Africa model and the Multiregional Continuity model disagree with each other.
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# Each model agrees with Creationists in surprising ways.

- Multiregionalists agree that we and Neandertals and Homo erectus are all in one category. That agrees with special creation of human beings.
- African Eve adherents agree that we all could have come from the same human woman. That agrees with special creation of human beings.
- Special creation is **not** outside the **data range** that evolutionists study.

# Paleo-Anthropology has philosophical pre-set ideas...

Paleo-anthropology assumes a closed universe and “evolution as a fact” since we are here.

It assumes special creation is outside the realm of science.

Even with those strong biases, some of its conclusions are **coherent** with a **special creation model** of human origins.

Its internal disagreements reveal the uncertainty of its own approaches to the data.

# This is a matter of life and death



Eternally.

It really matters that we know who we are.

Nothing among the hominid fossil data demands an evolutionary origin for our kind.

Dating methods are indeterminate, either because they cannot be calibrated or they are enmeshed in the theory, rather than being independent measurements.

The fossil charts falsify the human evolution story.

# No compelling reason exists

To choose an evolution story for human identity.

- **Much evidence exists for the trustworthy eyewitness accounts in the Bible and for inspiration from God in the Scriptures.**
- The costs and benefits of choices are extraordinarily high.
- The costs may be high on a temporal basis for careers in the sciences, if you choose to believe the Bible. The costs may be terribly high on an eternal basis if you choose to believe political correctness.

# Moses faced such a choice.

Hebrews 11:24-28

- 24** By faith Moses, when he became of age, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, **25** choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin, **26** esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt; for he looked to the reward.
- 27** By faith he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king; for he endured as seeing Him who is invisible.
- 28** By faith he kept the Passover and the sprinkling of blood, lest he who destroyed the firstborn should touch them.  
(NKJV)

# Moses chose well.

- Moses had the height of luxury and the benefits of power. He chose a different career path, including 40 years of obscurity, because of his integrity and his faith in the true and living God. At the time he chose, he did not know how it would work out.
- His choice was worth it—for himself, and for millions of other people in his generation, and for us today.

# Job 38:36

- <sup>36</sup> Who has put wisdom in the mind? Or who has given understanding to the heart?



# Homework

in 3 sets

# Homework Class 13 Set 1

- The Bible teaches that not only was the human race created especially and separately by God in His own image, but that **each individual** is His special creation and therefore is **required** to be treated as a valued member of the human race. Read Job 32:6-10 and 33:3-7.
- What reason did the young man Elihu give the elder Job to expect him to respect and to listen to Elihu's discourse?
- Read Job 10:8-18 and 13:15-18 and 19:23-27. Why was Job bewildered by his suffering, since he was innocent, and how did he resolve the question his suffering raised?

# Homework Class 13 Set 1

- Read Chapters 22 and 23 in BONES OF CONTENTION.
- According to Jared Diamond's description of Neandertals, their lack of certain tools and art objects made them less than human. The Tasmanians who were subject to genocide had the same lack of tools and art objects. Does Jared Diamond's criteria for human and sub-human categories work? Is it moral?

# Homework Class 13 Set 1

- What thought experiment does Dr. Lubenow use to also show that cultural artifacts do not demonstrate biological evolution in humans?
- Neandertal mitochondrial DNA is claimed to be far from Homo sapiens'. What mitigating factor in the laboratory makes that questionable?
- Are the Neandertal mtDNA sequences closer to chimpanzees' than modern human samples are, or farther away from chimpanzees' than modern human samples are?

# Homework Class 13 Set 1

- On page 228 is a list of various groups of hominids and a comparison of their mtDNA with modern human mtDNA.
- If those groups are placed in evolutionary time order from supposedly oldest to most recent in age, does a pattern emerge in the distance of their mtDNA from modern humans'?
- Fill in the chart on the next slide and try to describe the pattern in words.

# Homework Class 13 Set 1

Category in supposed time order from earliest to most modern	Distance from modern human mtDNA
10 Australian Homo erectus morphology	
3 Neandertals	
2 Cro-Magnon recoveries from Italy	
Mungo Man 3 anatomically modern human Australian recovery	

# Homework Class 13 Set 1

- Much of this chapter is technical, and it IS worthwhile for more in depth study. On a first acquaintance with the material, what conclusions can you draw?
- Morphology is the form of the creature—in fossils often meaning the bone structure and shape of the skull.
- What does the divergence between morphology and mtDNA say about human evolution?
- If it is true that mtDNA from the father can sometimes mix with mtDNA from the mother, what does that do to the molecular clock idea?

# Homework Class 13 Set 2

- Read Jeremiah 1:4-12.
- When did God make His plans for Jeremiah's life and how specific were they? What did He mean by saying Jeremiah would be appointed over nations and kingdoms to pluck up, break down, destroy and overthrow, build and plant?
- God has a plan for your life. He had a plan before you were born, and you may not have stayed with His good plan. His plan is the best. His plan for the rest of your life starts today and is the best from here and now. How do you think it may be possible to find His plan for you?

# Homework Class 13 Set 2

- Read Chapters 24 & 25 in BONES OF CONTENTION.
- Chapter 24 gives reasons to believe the Neandertals, who lived during the ice age, were fully human, in spite of absence of some cultural artifacts. What artistic and musical artifacts have been found?
- What kind of meat diet did Neandertals have, and what does this say about organizational ability?
- What evidence was given that the Neandertals honored their dead?

# Homework Class 13 Set 3

Dr. Lubenow made the point that God's revealed word is not about the things we can reason for ourselves by observing the world. Rather God reveals what we need to understand, but have no other way to learn. Read Deuteronomy 32:44-47. How important did this passage say God's revealed word is to us?

- Also read John 6:63. Does Jesus agree with this idea?
- Read Chapter 26 in BONES OF CONTENTION.
- What point does Lubenow make about the conflict between science and the Bible? What problem exists with the scientific community's study of the past?

# Homework Class 13 Set 3

- What explanation does Dr. Lubenow give for the ice age?
- What does I Peter 3:1-10 say about modern skepticism regarding Noah's flood?
- From the first edition of BONES OF CONTENTION, Dr. Rudolf Virchow was professor of pathology at Berlin University and a pioneer in public health, and one of the founders of the German Anthropological Society, and familiar with the original Neandertal fossils. He was the first to diagnose the Neandertals as having rickets.

# Homework Class 13 Set 3

- Others have followed with similar diagnoses as noted in this chapter. What would a diagnosis of rickets do to the classification of *Homo erectus*, *Homo sapiens*, and Neandertals as separate species?
- Is it possible to find out which—genetics or environment—caused the bone structure differences from so long ago? Can you think of any difficulties which would prevent a direct answer?

# Homework Class 13 Set 3

- Since rickets is caused by vitamin D deficiency, which is alleviated by exposure of the skin to sunlight, would living during an ice age account for a greater incidence of fossils with rickets over a wide geographic region? Would it account for fewer fossils of the same age with deformations due to rickets in regions nearer the equator?

# Homework Class 13 Set 3

- Lubenow's discussion of the ice age and flood is scientific and speculative.
- The point he is making about science and the past is: All scientific explanations of the distant past are speculative.
- Is scientific speculation a valid reason to disbelieve in human beings as a special creation of God?

# Homework Class 13 Set 3

- What two fossil groups of people were found living side by side in Australia until very recent times?
- Is it unbiased, when evolutionists assume environmental reasons for morphological differences if it helps the evolution story, but genetic reasons when that helps the story more? What does this demonstrate about the strength of the data versus the strength of the story?