

WitnessKit 2
God And Creation

Class 8
Paradoxes of Darwinism

Proverbs 8:11, 22, 27-31: MIND

11 For wisdom *is* better than rubies,
And all the things one may desire
cannot be compared with her. Proverbs
8:11 (NKJV)

22 "The LORD possessed me (*Wisdom
or Mind*) at the beginning of His
way, Before His works of old. Proverbs
8:22 (NKJV)

27 When He prepared the heavens, I
was there,

Proverbs 8:11, 22, 27-31: MIND

When He drew a circle on the face of the deep,
28 When He established the clouds above,
When He strengthened the fountains of the deep,
29 When He assigned to the sea its limit, So that the
waters would not transgress His command,
When He marked out the foundations of the earth,
30 Then I was beside Him *as* a master craftsman;
And I was daily *His* delight, Rejoicing always before
Him,
31 Rejoicing in His inhabited world, And my delight
was with the sons of men. Proverbs 8:27-31 (NKJV)

“The Great Darwinian Paradox”

According to John F. McDonald—

“The kind of mutations that macroevolution needs— namely large-scale, beneficial ones— don't occur, while the kind it doesn't need— large scale mutations with harmful effects or small-scale mutations with limited impact— do occur, though infrequently.”

This is not the only paradox

One must accept as fact
to become a committed Darwinist.

Lee Strobel has a list of “corollaries of Darwinism”

which must be true if unguided forces and unguided events are totally responsible for the cosmos' existence.

Lee Strobel lists six Corollaries of Darwinism in *THE CASE FOR A CREATOR*:

Materialist Darwinism claims that ...

1. Nothing produces everything.
2. Non-life produces life.
3. Randomness produces fine-tuning.
4. Chaos produces information.
5. Unconsciousness produces consciousness.
6. Non-reason produces reason.

No mechanism exists for accomplishing any item of that list.

- Darwinism has no plausible reasons to believe any of those statements, because nothing explains “how.” Materialistic Darwinism accepts these “alleged facts” by blind faith.
- We do not see any natural forces operative in the present with the power to accomplish these results. (This is the basic continuity assumption required for scientific explanations, according to Stephen Meyer’s *Signature in the Cell*. These beliefs of materialistic Darwinism, therefore, fall OUTSIDE science.)

No mechanism exists for accomplishing any item of that list.

- With all our wonderful human brain power, we cannot accomplish anything on the list either, starting with inanimate materials or with nothing. Our minds can create information, but we cannot cause chaos to create information. We have to ORGANIZE chaos to create information.
- These 6 issues are much larger issues than microevolution.

We can express the basic problems of Darwinism

by
remember
-ing and
explaining
Lee
Strobel's
list.

“Darwinism claims:

1. Nothing produces everything.
2. Non-life produces life.
3. Randomness produces fine-tuning.
4. Chaos produces information.
5. Unconsciousness produces consciousness.
6. Non-reason produces reason.”

“Darwinism claims:
Nothing produces everything.”

A singularity—where the space time curvature is infinite and physical laws of the universe are not operative—
suddenly,
for no known reason,
produced a perfectly choreographed, orderly explosion called the Big Bang,
From which the entire universe emerged...
ALL BY ITSELF.

“Darwinism claims: Nothing produces everything.”

In fact, the multiverse theory says such an amazing choreographed explosion must have happened billions of times—even though no evidence exists for billions of other universes.

In the world of science experiments, one always expects the first law of thermodynamics to be operative—that the sum of matter and energy in the universe remains constant. One never expects a Big Bang new universe to appear from one’s lab.

In the world of multiverses, one expects the first law to be violated billions of times for no known reason—too far away from here and now for data.

“Darwinism claims: **Non-life produces life.**”

The stories vary from time to time, but follow similar patterns to this: Inorganic chemicals in an ocean near a volcano formed temporary structures at the surface, and when the volcano erupted, compounds such as amino acids formed in them. Later they organized themselves into the first living proto-cell.

Even though we would NEVER expect this to happen in a laboratory, even with all the exactly right chemicals present, it HAD to happen in the turbulent waters near a volcano just by chance—or some other place, with a similarly unlikely story.

“Darwinism claims: **Non-life produces life.**”

THEN, the form of chemistry automatically switched from chance-driven chemistry to information-driven chemistry, also, just by chance.

We see the opposite transition—the switch from information-driven chemistry to chance-driven chemistry—whenever cell death occurs. Even though the correct chemicals are present after cell death, we never expect the switch to take place in the appropriate direction for the creation of life.

“Darwinism claims: **Non-life produces life.**”

If life began by undirected processes, then such an event was required, and from a much less likely starting point. A pool of random chemicals had to somehow shape up into a living cell.

Much more faith is required to believe that than to believe in a God-directed event. Life is significantly different from non-life. Life chemistry is significantly different from all other chemistry. The switch from one form to another only goes one direction on its own.

“Darwinism claims: Randomness produces fine-tuning.”

- We know that more than 30 physical constants, such as the expansion rate of the universe, are fine-tuned in the extreme – some to one part per trillion trillion trillion trillion trillion.
- Otherwise the world we inhabit could not have developed to support life.
- This marvelous fine tuning had to occur from sheer randomness, if there is no “God factor.”

“Darwinism claims: Randomness produces fine-tuning.”

- We see the path and size and mass of the moon to keep the earth's axis stable, to give us predictable seasons. And even though the Bible tells us “God made the moon for the seasons,” without a “God factor” the moon had to fit that purpose by accident.
- Without that fit, life could not easily survive, because the climate would swing wildly from arctic to equatorial and back.

“Darwinism claims: Randomness produces fine-tuning.”

- We see the location of the earth in exactly the right part of exactly the right kind of galaxy for life.
- We see the location and nice round orbit of Jupiter, to conveniently shield the earth from comets.
- So also the size of the sun is just right to support life on earth.
- All these unrelated events are exactly right for life on our planet.

“Darwinism claims: Randomness produces fine-tuning.”

- The earth has feedback mechanisms involving plate tectonics, cloud cover, CO2 uptake, and algae growth, to fine-tune the heat balance.
- The earth is exactly the right size for its surface area to give off the same amount of heat it receives from the sun plus the heat it receives from radioactive decay at the core plus the heat generated by plate tectonics.

“Darwinism claims: Randomness produces fine-tuning.”

- All these unrelated but **COORDINATED** factors just happened by chance to be exactly right to support life.
- And there are other factors not mentioned.
- The Darwinists insist there was no “God factor;” all of this was just random serendipity.

“Darwinism claims: Chaos produces information.”

- Information is both a rare and variable event which matches an external, independent, obvious pattern.
- Chaos can account for rarity of an event.
- Chaos NEVER can account for the external, independent, obvious pattern.
- Chaos means NO pattern.
- Chaos cannot explain the match between pattern and event.

“Darwinism claims: Chaos produces information.”

- The chemistry of living cells is information driven.
- The chemistry of living tissues is information-driven chemistry, with more layering.
- The chemistry of living organs is information-driven chemistry with more layers.
- The chemistry of body systems is information-driven chemistry with even more layers.
- Materialistic Darwinism insists that chaos produced it all.

“Darwinism Claims: Unconsciousness produces consciousness.”

- Darwinism reduces the human mind to electrical impulses and chemical processes in the brain. Electrical impulses do not have consciousness.
- Darwinism thinks minds are computers made of brain tissue, which, one day, just happened to become conscious.
- But then, why wouldn't we expect our desktop computer to develop consciousness? Or the disconnected brains in the meat counter at the grocery?

“Darwinism Claims: Unconsciousness produces consciousness.”

Consciousness demonstrates that life is more than physical plus electrical systems.

If you attach electrodes and add current to a calf brain at the meat counter, it does not become conscious.

The physical death of an organism eliminates consciousness from the organism's physical body, except for reported “near death” experiences—where consciousness travels away from the body—and back again.

“Darwinism Claims: Unconsciousness produces consciousness.”

In those experiences, the body as a system must be revivable or we do not receive a report. Life is different from electrical impulses and brain chemistry, and consciousness is different from brain tissue stimulation.

Consciousness cannot express itself in the physical world without both a living body system and a functioning brain.

Life is more than the physical objects which house it. Consciousness is something different from brain tissue activation.

“Darwinism Claims: Non-reason produces reason.”

- Materialism requires that Matter plus Electrical Impulses and Chemistry produce reason. (But in the chance-driven chemical laboratory, they never do that. There is an arbitrator involved in reason—a decision-maker who selects the focus of the mind, and who follows rules of logic in correct use of reason.)
- Darwinism sees us as part of the cause and effect universe, pre-programmed by our genes and environment to react to stimuli.

“Darwinism Claims: Non-reason produces reason.”

- Darwinism postulates that reason developed as a physical expression of matter and energy, from the presence of more neurons than necessary for mere survival, as described in *Reason in the Balance*. So how do we know reason has any validity at all? If reason is just “the firing of a bunch of surplus neurons stimulated by the environment,” why is reason valid?

“Darwinism Claims: Non-reason produces reason.”

- But reason is more than a collection of surplus neurons. Reason interacts with the outside world in a non-chemical, non-electrical manner.
- Reason interacts with the world in wonderful ways—amazing ways.
- If you begin with matter plus energy plus time, reason is a fluke of nature. If you begin with God who is infinite Intelligence, reason is natural as a gift from His mind.
- How amazing His Mind must be!

How does Biblical Christianity explain these phenomena?

What is the source

- Of everything,
- of life,
- of fine-tuning,
- Of information,
- of consciousness,
- of reason?

The Source of Everything...

- Hebrews 3:4 “For every house is built by someone, but the Builder of all things is God.”

The Source of Life...

- John 1:1,4 “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God...In Him was life, and the life was the light of men.”
- Job 33:4 “The Spirit of God has made me, and the breath of the Almighty gives me life.”

The Source of Life...

Psalm 21:4

“He (King David) asked life of Thee,
Thou didst give it to him,
Length of days forever and ever.”

The Source of Life...

Genesis 1-3

- God created all living things.

The Source of Fine Tuning...

- Isaiah 45:18 “For thus says the LORD, who created the heavens (He is the God who formed the earth and made it, He established it and did not create it a waste place, but formed it to be inhabited), I am the LORD and there is none else.”
- Isaiah 40:12 “Who has measured the waters in the hollow of His hand, and marked off the heavens by the span...

The Source of Fine Tuning...

- ...And calculated the dust of the earth by measure, and weighed the mountains in a balance and the hills in a pair of scales? Who has directed the Spirit of the LORD, or as His counselor has informed Him?”
- Isaiah 40:26 “Lift up your eyes on high and see who has created these stars, the One who leads forth their host by number. He calls them all by name; because of the greatness of His might and the strength of His power, not one of them is missing.”

The Source of Information...

- John 1:1-3 “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being by Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being.”
- The Greek word *LOGOS* carries the implication of information, just as we talk about the “alphabet” of the genetic code.
- This also implies that God is far beyond what we are able to see in the Word—yet that the Word expresses Him to us truly—in the Person of His Son.

The Source of Information...

- Job 38:33 The LORD is asking Job, “Do you know the ordinances of the heavens, or fix their rule over the earth?”
- God treats the idea of physical law as valid, and as something He arranged.
- Psalm 147:15 “He sends forth His command to the earth; His word runs very swiftly.”
- Psalm 148:5b “He commanded and they were created.”

The Source of Information...

- Psalm 33:6,9 “By the Word of the LORD the heavens were made, and by the breath of His mouth all their hosts....He spoke and it was done; He commanded and it stood fast.”

The Source of Information...

- Psalm 19:1-4 “The heavens are telling the glory of God; and their expanse is declaring the work of His hands. Day to day pours forth speech and night to night reveals knowledge. There is no speech nor are there words; Their voice is not heard. Their line has gone out through all the earth and their utterances to the end of the world.”

The Source of Consciousness...

- Psalm 94:9,11 “He who planted the ear, does He not hear? He who formed the eye, does He not see?” ...”He who teaches man knowledge... The LORD knows the thoughts of man, that they are a mere breath.”
- Genesis 1:27 “And God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him, male and female He created them.”

The Source of Reason ...

- Job 38:36 God asks Job, “Who has put wisdom in the innermost being? Or has given understanding to the mind?”
- Psalm 33:13-15 “The LORD looks from heaven. He sees all the sons of men. From His dwelling place He looks out on all the inhabitants of the earth. He who fashions the hearts of them all, He who understands all their works.”

Isn't it interesting....

That a book written so long ago would have answers to such modern concerns?

Another modern concern is

The sense of alienation most of us have from other people (and from God).

The Human Sense of Alienation

From God and from other people, has no solution in the modernist and postmodernist worldviews. The Biblical worldview has a very helpful answer.

1. The alienation is real, not just perceived.
2. It has a solution.
3. Real friendship is possible, both with God and with other people, if we take the right path to solve the problem.

The Alienation is real. Everyone

Experiences it.

This sense of alienation can drive us away from God. It can also drive some individuals who have believed the modernist and postmodernist views toward the emotional abyss of nihilism.

That is a dangerous direction to go.

The **right direction** is a search for a solution to the alienation.

The different worldviews ...

have a different explanation for the sense of alienation.

The modernist and postmodernist worldviews explain it in terms of human limitedness.

We can't really know other people well enough to trust them. God isn't there, or is a construct of our own imagination, so the sense of alienation from God cannot be resolved.

The Biblical Worldview...



Explains the alienation in an old-fashioned term: sin. This is not a term of extreme wickedness, but of ordinary human weakness toward choosing wrongly, selfishly.

We feel alienated from other people because we fear that their inherent selfishness may cause us damage.

Or we sin by thinking their friendship is unimportant. We know that they are sinners. We expect disappointment.

The Biblical Worldview...



We feel alienated from God because we are sinful and He is Righteous, and we cannot make ourselves good enough to deserve His friendship.

Truly He is above us,
in power
in intelligence
in goodness.

Only the Biblical Worldview Has a solution,

and it is a VERY SATISFACTORY solution.

I John 1:3 and 7 “What we have seen and heard we proclaim to you also, that you also may have fellowship with us;

and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ. ...

if we walk in the light as He Himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin.”

What is the path to friendship with God and with other people?

First of all, the path is easy to miss.
Jesus Christ said it this way.

“Enter by the narrow gate. For the gate is wide, and the way is broad that leads to destruction, and many are those who enter by it.

For the gate is small and the way is narrow that leads to life, and few are those who find it.”

The life He mentioned is eternal.

Being friends with God brings the gift
of eternal life with it—
friends forever.

“Seek first His kingdom and His righteousness.” Matthew 6:33

This doesn't mean some vague sort of thing like “Be religious.”

It means seeking to have His righteousness and His kingdom in our own lives.

In order for that to occur, we must allow Him to take our sins away. Then we must accept the gift of His righteousness, through His indwelling Presence.

His Basis for Taking Our Sins Away

Is the supreme sacrifice Jesus Christ made to take the penalty in our place. Because He demonstrated His love for us so completely by suffering in our place, He wants us to choose Him. It is important to Him that we realize what He did for us. Loving God requires this.

Then He wants us to Stay on the Path...

We stay in fellowship by keeping our lives in the center of His will, and by confessing to God and forsaking sins when we fail. The entire epistle of First John is devoted to this part of the path.

We stay in fellowship with other people by recognizing our equality before God, and by making the same allowance for them that we want made for ourselves.

The Biblical Worldview



Tells us who we are and who other people are before God.

We can relate to them as we relate to ourselves – not by demanding perfection, but by acceptance. We must see them as having the same potential God sees in us. We can be honest without being unkind.

Because we have found the path, we can estimate where they are on their path, and can give them appropriate information.

This may not mean trusting them...

It does not mean letting them damage us.

We are called to be honest, not gullible.

This does mean valuing them, even if they are not friends at all.

We can value them based on the value God sees in them.

He showed that value by the price He was willing to pay to bring them into His friendship.

In the Bible's Letter to the Romans, chapters 12 – 15 offer practical advice in this matter.

Accept one another as Christ has accepted you. Romans 15:7



Homework

In 3 sets

Homework Class 8 Set 1

- Read John 1:1-18.
- If *LOGOS, the Word*, can mean *the Mind*, in what way does Jesus Christ reveal God's Mind?
- Read the Appendix summarizing THE CASE FOR CHRIST. List any evidence found there that is new to you.
- Try to put each idea into brief sentences that you could mention in a conversation with a friend.

Homework Class 8 Set 2

- We want to begin the most important part of the debate about creation, intelligent design, and evolution. We want to begin ***Bones of Contention***, by Dr. Marvin Lubenow. We want to look at the data used to support the human evolution story, and see if it is strong enough to warrant discarding Genesis in the Bible as truth.
- This book is technical, of necessity, because it looks at data.
- Anyone can make a story about origins. What matters is the strength of the data. Does the story fit? How well or poorly?

Homework Class 8 Set 2

- The arena where origin studies make the most difference is in the question of human origins. The answers to these questions carry profound effects into other disciplines such as philosophy, ethics, sociology, anthropology, and human destiny—not to mention religion!
- The Biblical explanation of the origin of human beings is that we are a special creation of God, made in His image, with true moral choice.

Homework Class 8 Set 2

- Because we are a special creation, we have an ethical relationship with God who is Good, and are accountable to Him for our choices.
- Because God is Spirit, we also are spiritual beings, because His image is Spirit.
- His Spirit is eternal from infinite time past to eternity future. Our spirits are eternal from our individual creation to eternity future.
- Our bodies are mortal, but our souls are not.

Homework Class 8 Set 2

- This is a different explanation than human evolution indicates, by which our physical bodies define our being and indicate our destiny as death. No room is left in the evolutionary system apart from God for moral standards. Evil and good are almost impossible to define.
- The Biblical explanation defines good as consistent with God's character, and evil as that which is in opposition to His goodness.
- Because we are limited in our understanding, we need information from God about these matters.

Homework Class 8 Set 2

- The Biblical explanation defines evil as coming into existence through rebellion against God, so that God remains perfect in righteousness, while we must fight evil and seek for good to prevail.
- Yet because we are created in His image, our lives have meaning and value on an eternal scale.
- Because we are created in His image, we have an inborn sense of right and wrong that may not be correct in all the details, but which is coherent with ultimate reality.

Homework Class 8 Set 2

- Read the Preface and Introduction #1 and Chapter 1 in BONES OF CONTENTION and observe the fossil charts at the end of the book. The author of BONES OF CONTENTION is a young-earth creationist, and because of that, he is unafraid to challenge any assumption in evolutionary theory. His book will give us a look at some of the technical issues in the evolutionary explanation of human origins.
- Define hominid from page 22: (Different editions of the book may have different page numbers, so look around for the definition if your book is different.)
- What reasons did Lubenow give on page 22 for stating that human evolution was not based on fossil evidence?

Homework Class 8 Set 2

- Which famous hominid fossils have been lost?
- How many times have a sizeable number of hominid fossils been available for study side by side?
- What is the current term for the study of fossil humans, replacing the term *human paleontology*?
- Since the actual fossils are carefully stored away in their respective archives, what do the paleo-anthropologists actually study, and why?

Homework Class 8 Set 2

- What took place at the American Museum exhibit that revealed the inadequacy of casts?
- Why is this “imperfect reproduction” in the casts a problem?

Homework Class 8 Set 3

- Read Proverbs 18:17 and Proverbs 20:14-17.
- What do these verses teach about truth?
- Read Chapter 2 and 3 in BONES OF CONTENTION. What verbal trick was used by Carl Sagan to promote a science fiction view?
- What profound statement did Sagan make?

Homework Class 8 Set 3

- What weight, on a scale from 0 to 10, did Lubenow assign to Newtonian dynamics and the laws of thermodynamics?
- What weight did he assign to statements about human evolution?
- What lines of evidence are used to support human evolutionary statements.
- What logical problem exists in the use of non-human primate studies to promote human evolution?
- What are the logical problems with the arrangement of fossil materials as proof of evolution?

Homework Class 8 Set 3

- By 1976, approximately how many hominid fossil individuals had been discovered? (Remember that one individual may be represented by only a fragment of one bone.)
- In 1984, at the only exhibit of fossil hominids side by side, how many fossil individuals were represented in the display?
- What percentage of the 4,000 does the 40 represent?

Homework Class 8 Set 3

- How does Lubenow translate the discrepancy between the statements made by paleo-anthropologists about the paucity of hominid fossils and their actual numbers?
- By 2004, Lubenow reports that between 7000 and 8000 hominid fossils had been found. Does a focus on only the fossils that “make the case” and disregard for the rest constitute a fair and honest presentation of the actual data?