

THE THEORY OF EVOLUTIONINTRODUCTION

Young people, beginning with the first grade through college, are faced with the all important matter of accepting the Bible and its teachings in lieu of the theories of evolution as taught by man today. The one you accept will determine the way you will go, whether for God or the materialistic world. It should be borne in mind that man must make a choice: whether he will retain his faith in God and his word, or follow off after man and his unproven theory of evolution. What you think is generally in opposition to something else that might have been. Do you think the right thoughts? Do you have the right basis for right thinking. Mr. Henry Morris in his book, BIBLE AND SCIENCE said:

1. It is difficult, if not impossible, to think of good except in opposition to bad,
2. To think of truth except as against falsehood.
3. To think of holiness except as contrasted with sinfulness. He further said,

"The good qualities can mean nothing unless freely chosen and exhibited in preference to the bad. A properly designed machine could deserve no credit and would elicit no love for accurately and dependably doing what was expected of it; it has no choice in the matter." -The Bible and Science on page 15

The difference in you and the machine is that you have a choice in all that is before you whether good or bad. You must make your choice. Actually there are only six systems logically possible and from the six you must choose one. The systems are:

1. AGNOSTICISM

1. This is the doctrine that neither the nature of God, nor the ultimate origin of the universe, is known or knowable.

2. MATERIALISM, ATHEISTIC

1. According to this theory the mind of man is nothing apart from matter, that matter itself is eternal and therefore had no creator or beginning in time.
(1) According to this theory there is therefore no God or spiritual substance back of matter or apart from it. -The Basis of the Christian Faith, page 30

3. PANTHEISM

1. The literal meaning of pantheism is: All God. Pantheism is the theory that says that all that exists is God, that he is the sum total of everything that exists, so that God has no existence apart from things, including man, in the universe. Three varieties of Pantheism:

1. The human individual, and whatever apparent individuality he has is only apparent.
2. The second variety of Pantheism is the denial of any real individual personality of God apart from the consciousness of man which according to Pantheism is a part of God. According to this theory God has no separate personality. Yet it is a known fact that personality exists in the world.
3. The third feature of pantheism is the identification of human beings with the external universe, and to say that both (universe and man) are all the God there is.

4. DUALISM

1. Dualism divides into two classes of thinking. They are: Deism and Realism.

1. Deism teaches that God created the world either as a finished product, such as we have now, or as a mass of matter which evolved into the present universe through natural laws ordained by God. Deism denies that God has ever intervened in the universe since it was first created. God has just let the world and man alone. No miracles or divine revelation ever occurred.

2. Realism is close to the truth teaching that God is transcendent and also immanent in all matter. That he does not leave the universe alone to work out its whole course, but is constantly present controlling natural laws.

5. POLYTHEISM

1. Poly means many and theism is belief in the existence of a god or gods. So, Polytheism: many gods.

6. THEISM

1. Theism is the doctrine that explains the universe as the product of an omnipotent God. God, who exists transcendently from the universe itself. The theist holds that all things were brought about by God who was the First Cause and the constant guide and sustainer of the whole process.

Thought for this lesson: One must choose which of these systems one will adhere to. Not to choose, or to attempt to withhold one's decision, automatically places one in one of the first two classes.

THE THEORY OF EVOLUTIONLESSON TWOINTRODUCTION

In our lesson today we will give some consideration to THE WORLD TODAY AND ITS ORIGIN. Where did it come from? How did it get here? These are questions that man has not been able to answer definitely separate and apart from the Bible itself. Somethings to remember as we study:

1. In the first place we must carefully distinguish between those theories which are opposed to the Bible.
2. In the second place we must remember that the theory of evolution is only a theory. Evolution is not a discovered and proved fact.
3. In the third place we should remember that theories change with the passing of years. Theories of evolution have undergone radical changes the last half-century.

In our lesson today, we will study four theories of evolution. These four theories are not the only ones, but they cover the field fairly well. They are:

1. CAUSAL EVOLUTION

1. Causal evolution is the theory that evolution itself has been eternal, and that it is a cause adequate to explain the present universe.
2. Causal evolution is fundamentally opposed to the Bible teaching found in the first chapter of Genesis especially.
3. It makes evolution into a self running, automatic god and deifies evolution.

2. MODAL EVOLUTION

1. This is the theory which says that evolution is merely the instrument which God used to create the universe. What his mode of activity was in bringing to pass the events of creation.

3. COSMIC EVOLUTION

1. Cosmic evolution teaches the supposition of matter already in existence, spread out in space in a condition of "primitive nebulosity" governed by certain laws, acting under certain forces, chief among which are gravitation and Chemical affinity.
 - (1) These forces gradually collected the spread out matter into the solar systems, and the worlds came into existence. This is cosmic evolution.

4. ORGANIC EVOLUTION

1. The theory which holds that all existing life, in whatever form, has evolved from a primordial cell or cells. -THE BASIS OF CHRISTIAN FAITH, pages 56-59

THE THEORY OF EVOLUTION

LESSON 3

INTRODUCTION

In our lesson today we will study some of the theories as to the ORIGIN OF MAN. Where did man come from? How did he get here? Where is he going? As to the origin of man there about as many theories as we have evolutionists. All cannot be right. The fact is that after more than a hundred years of research in the biological field, the theory of evolution is still a theory and not a law: the theory has never been proven. As for the very rigorous proof that science generally demands, the proof for evolution still is not there. If the proof were there then it would be called the "theory" of evolution. Of course, the theory of evolution as it is taught today goes way beyond Darwin's day, but still it is usually referred to as Darwin's Theory.

At this point we would do well to set down the three general views regarding the Bible itself. You will have to accept one of them. They are:

1. The traditional, or conservative view. This view holds:
 1. The Bible to be the Word of God, that the Bible in its entirety is accurate in everything that it says in every branch of knowledge, including science and history.
2. The radical view. This view assumes:
 1. That God had little or nothing at all to do with the Bible.
 2. The Bible is just a book among many others, with no greater inspiration than that which you might get from reading Tennyson, Emerson, or any other writer.
3. The moderating view. This view states and teaches:
 1. That the Bible itself is a textbook of religion, and that the religion is authoritative, but that its science and history can be dismissed as legendary and fictional. -Science Returns To God, page 25 and 26.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT TO SCIENCE

1. Science properly viewed and properly used, constitutes one of God's great gifts to men. Science has made life more comfortable and more enjoyable for us.
 1. Consider life expectancy: In 1750 life expectancy for the average man was about thirty years. By 1950 life expectancy had increased up to 68 years.
 - (1) Much of this came about through the wonderful discoveries of science.
 - (2) In nearly every field of endeavour, science has made some contribution worthy of note. Example: Radio, television, jet planes, cars, splitting the atom for a new source of great power, and the many wonder drugs today.
 - (3) One should remember however that: Wherever you have the possibility of good, there is also the threat of evil.
2. Finally, science deals only with those things that can be measured. God cannot be measured.

THE ORIGIN OF MAN

1. The theory of evolution teaches that all living things are related. At the beginning there was just one living cell from which all things came. From that cell we have the man of today.
 1. Man by the evolutionist is considered to be the product of this system.
 2. The popular idea is that man's descent is from the higher anthropoid apes.
 3. If not, then man and ape have a common ancestry from which each sprang.

WHICH WILL YOU ACCEPT?

1. The unproven theory of evolution's teaching concerning the origin of man, or
2. God's record of Creation as in Genesis 1.
 1. This record of creation confirmed by Jesus in Matthew 19:5; Mark 10:6; and by Paul in 1 Corinthians 15:45; 1 Timothy 2:13. Hear Peter's record of the scoffers in 2 Peter 3:3, 4.

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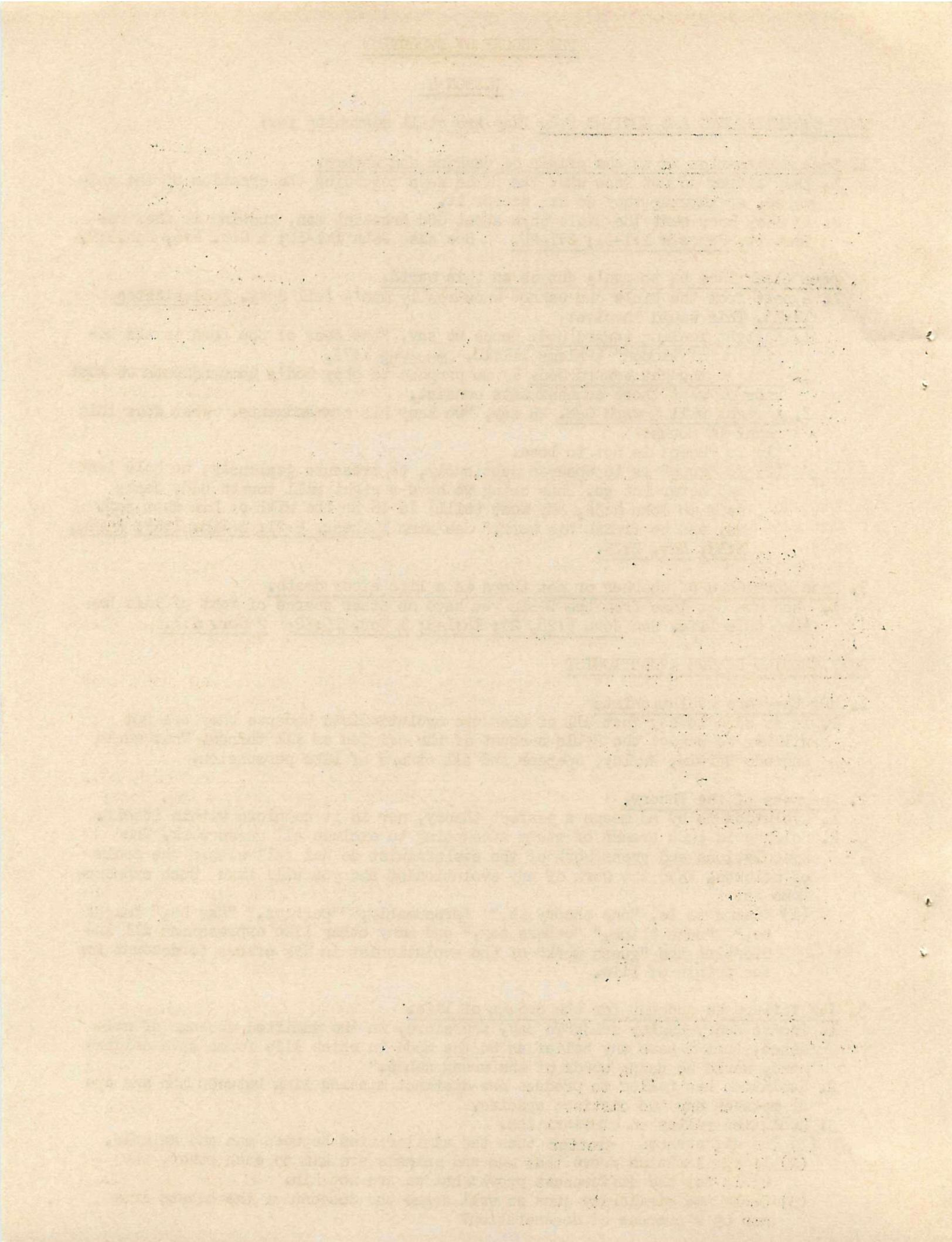
LESSON 4

WHAT EVOLUTIONISTS ARE HUNTING FOR. They are still searching for:

1. Some explanation as to the origin of mankind and nature.
 1. They either do not know what the Bible says regarding the creation of the universe, or knowing they do not accept it.
 2. If they know what the Bible says about God creating man, knowing it they reject it. Genesis 1:1-31; 2:1-25. See also John 1:1-10; 1 Cor. 8:6, Eph. 3:9.
2. Some clear idea as to man's duties on this earth.
 1. A part from the Bible one cannot know really man's full duty. Ecclesiastes 12:13. This would involve:
 1. A right feeling toward God. Hence we say, "the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom" (Pslams 111:10, Proverbs 1:7).
 2. A right thought toward God. If we propose to obey God's commandments we must know of what those commandments consist.
 3. A right will toward God. We say, "we keep his commandments." What does this mean? It means:
 - (1) To "keep" is not to lose.
 - (2) To "keep" is to observe cautiously, to treasure jealously, to hold fast and never let go. Thus doing we have a right will toward God. Jesus said in John 4:34, "My meat (will) is to do the will of him that sent me, and to finish his work." See also 1 Thess. 5:21; 1 Tim. 1:19; 2 Tim. 1:13, Rev. 2:25.
 3. Some knowledge of whether or not there is a life after death.
 1. When you cut loose from the Bible you have no other source of text of life beyond this life. See John 5:28, 29; 14:1-3; 1 Cor. 15:52; 2 Cor. 5:1.

DIFFICULTIES OF THE EVOLUTIONIST

1. Why they are evolutionists
 1. It is safe to say that all of them are evolutionists because they are not willing to accept the Bible account of the origin of all things. This would include Darwin, Huxley, Spencer and all others of like persuasion.
2. Weakness of the Theory.
 1. Evolution is by no means a perfect theory, nor is it complete within itself.
 2. Science is that branch of study attempting to exclude all guess work. The speculations and guess work of the evolutionist do not fall within the realm of science. Read the work of any evolutionist and you will find such expressions as:
 - (1) "Seems to be," "one theory is," "presumably," "perhaps," "may be," "might be," "some think," "others say," and many other like expressions all indicating the "guess work" of the evolutionist in his effort to account for the origin of life.
3. Its failure to account for the origin of life.
 1. Thomas Henry Huxley said, "To say, therefore, in the admitted absence of evidence, that I have any belief as to the mode in which life forms have originated, would be using words of the wrong sense."
 2. Evolution has failed to produce one distinct missing link between man and ape or between any two distinct species.
 3. Evolution relies on similarities.
 - (1) The differences greater than the similarities between man and animals.
 - (2) If similarities prove that man and animals are kin to each other, why would not the differences prove that we are not kin.
 - (3) Could not similarity just as well argue the descent of the beasts from man by a process of degeneration?



THEISTIC EVOLUTION

VERSUS

THE BIBLE

LESSON 5

WHAT IS THEISTIC EVOLUTION

Theistic evolution is the theory that teaches that God created the first life, and that evolution then took over from that first creation. The theistic evolutionist is not entirely willing to cut himself loose from God entirely.

Then again, this is his way of accounting for the beginning of life for he recognizes the fact that the theory of evolution has never been able to satisfactorily account for the origin of life itself. He would have us believe:

1. That God was the First Cause in creation.
2. That God, having created all things, even life itself, then left all things to themselves, entirely apart from the framework of his Creative Power to drift through centuries of evolutionary processes until we have things as they are today.

THEISTIC EVOLUTION A SPIRIT OF COMPROMISE

1. Theistic evolution has been generally adopted in modernistic and liberal churches for almost as long as Darwinism has been popular among scientists. This is true also of a great many religious seminars. Why this is true:
 1. Because many have not studied the issues for themselves, but simply have been pressured into believing the theory.
 2. In Darwin's day, those religionists would be popular with the world, but who were not yet willing to go all the way with Darwin's theory of evolution which openly denied God, hooked onto the idea of theistic evolution: God started the whole thing and then left it to drift for itself.
 3. Fundamentalists, those who would stand by and stand for the Biblical account of origins, deny all the theories of evolution.
 4. It is true also for the following three reasons:
 1. They will not (the theistic, or other stripes of evolutionists) "study to show themselves approved unto God" (2 Tim. 2:15).
 2. They "love the praise of men more than the praise of God" (John 12:42, 43).
 3. They would rather be "conformed to this world" (Romans 12:2; 1 Cor. 3:19; John 7:7).

WHY THE CHRISTIAN CANNOT ACCEPT THEISTIC EVOLUTION

1. Theistic evolution denies the word of God, the teaching of Jesus, the teaching of inspired men such as Peter, Paul and others. Examples:
 1. Jesus said in Matthew 19:4; "Have ye not read, that he which made them at the beginning made them male and female." See Mark 10:6
 2. Paul said in Acts 17:26; "And hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on the face of the earth..." See 1 Cor. 15:45
See also Hebrews 11:3
 3. Peter said in 2 Peter 3:3, 4: "Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts, saying, Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation."

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT: Material in these lessons has been gathered from many sources through the years. However, many thoughts have been gleaned from present day men who wrote, and are writing in defense of the Bible as the word of God.

