

## Advanced Placement Coordinator Questions Evolution

Last spring, when Advanced Placement Examinations had almost concluded, I received from the College Entrance Examination Board (CEEB) various *Advanced Placement Course Descriptions*, including one for biology. Eight percent of the Biology Exam is on evolution, and "Evidence for evolution" is one of the six rubrics under the biology heading.

Being an evolutionary skeptic, I looked through Neil A. Campbell's textbook, *Biology* (1990), and also consulted *Life: The Science of Biology* by Purves, Orians and Heller (1992). Both are listed by CEEB as acceptable.

Campbell's book purports to be scientific but steps over scientific boundaries into metaphysics. It labels as "myth" the notion "that organic molecules are products of supernatural vital forces" (p. 17) and affirms the notion "that life developed on Earth from nonliving materials" (p. 513). It further states, "The history of life is not a story of immutable species individually created on a conservative planet . . ." (p. 9). These statements, however, cannot be supported by science. No human scientist was present in the beginning, and no modern scientist can replicate anything that comes near to the creation of life from inorganic materials. Even if he or she could, it would point in the direction of intelligence being required rather than randomness.

Campbell's textbook is inconsistent; it lists as one of the properties of life the "axiom known as biogenesis," that "Life comes only from life" (p. 4). If life comes only from life, how can the author say that "life developed . . . from nonliving materials" and imply that "supernatural vital forces" should be excluded?

The Purves, Orians and Heller textbook is more guarded: "The initial energy source for life's evolution is not known, but volcanic vents were probably important sites for the evolution of protolife" (p. 397).

I am appalled that one of the greatest biologists of all time, Louis Pasteur, is excluded from the 24 page index of Campbell's text. Pasteur established the Law of Biogenesis and perhaps should be regarded as the father of modern bacteriology as well as being a major contributor to the developments of vaccination and immunization. He contributed more to world health than perhaps any other modern scientist.

Since Campbell's textbook worships the notion of evolution—"the one biological theme that unifies all others: evolution" (p. 117)—one wonders if Pasteur was excluded from the index because he demolished the then-prevalent and naive evolutionary notion of spontaneous generation. The Purves et al. textbook describes him as "the great French scientist" and credits him with obtaining "results that finally convinced most people that spontaneous generation does not occur" (p. 386). Authors Purves, Orians and Heller are apparently not among the "most," however, because their text goes on to assert that "life *did* arise by . . . a form of spontaneous generation—under conditions much different from today's" (p. 397).

The evidences for evolution given in Campbell's textbook (pp. 434-437) are extremely weak. They include conjectures about biological distributions, misleading information about fossils, arguments from

taxonomy, comparative anatomy, embryology, and molecular biology.

Regarding fossils, the text says that the "record of past life is incomplete even today, although . . . many of the key links are no longer missing" (p. 435). The only example in context, however, is *Archeopteryx*, and we have known about this extinct animal for many decades; moreover, fossils of birds predating *Archeopteryx* have recently been uncovered, disqualifying *Archeopteryx* as a "key" link.

Niles Eldredge, interviewed in the text, refers to "the fundamental observation that there are few good examples of slow, steady, gradual transformations within species in the fossil record through time" (p. 421) and adds that "a hundred years (after Darwin) there still weren't many satisfying examples of gradual transformations." How does this harmonize with the statement, "many of the key links are no longer missing" (p. 435)? Time and space do not permit delineating other weaknesses.

In conclusion, metaphysical evolution presuppositionally rules God out of the picture, and the manifold wisdom and design we see throughout creation is offered as the product of blind chance. The notion that a computer could have come into existence without intelligence is absurd—how much more the human brain!

Evolution should not be taught to students unchallenged, at least in science. Arguments against its validity should be encouraged and alternative approaches considered. Moreover, this approach should not be viewed as being inimical to science. Isaac Newton, perhaps the greatest of all modern scientists (gravitation, laws of motion, calculus) had no problem with the concept of God. In his *Principia*, he wrote of the "Lord over all."

Many other scientists, including Robert Boyle (regarded as the father of modern chemistry and an apologist for theism), George Cuvier (credited with being the founder of the science of comparative anatomy), Michael E. DeBakey (famed heart surgeon who said, "I still have almost religious sense when I work on the heart. It is something God makes."), John Ambrose Fleming (considered the father of modern electronics and first president of the Evolution Protest Movement), Johann Kepler (viewed as the founder of physical astronomy, the one who thought "God's thoughts after Him"), Carolus Linnaeus (judged to be the father of biological taxonomy, relating "species" and "kinds"), Joseph Maxwell (also one of the greatest of modern scientists and strong opponent of evolution), Gregor Mendel (the father of genetics and one who rejected Darwin's evolutionary notions), Samuel F. B. Morse (telegraphed, "What hath God wrought!"), John Ray (referred to as the father of English natural history and author of *The Wisdom of God Manifested in the Works of the Creation*), and many others likely would have concurred.

To the question, "What other forces do you see leading us to the humane holocaust?", Malcolm Muggeridge responded in 1986:

I think that after the story's told, when the history of our time is written, we will see that the theory of evolution—which has invaded every single discipline within the whole structure of Western thought which is itself based upon this theory—



was one of the most brilliant coups of the devil's. Of course it's complete nonsense, but it has captivated the Western mind. The belief that this theory is absolutely true is so borne in upon the educated that you can't reach them. I find it incredible. (See Brooke and Muggeridge, p. 37.)

Several years ago, I received in my school mailbox a personal letter from the then Surgeon General C. Everett Koop, M.D. He wrote, "It has been my conviction for many years that evolution is impossible, just on the basis of mathematics alone." I agree. As far as I am concerned, students would make better use of their time if they were required also to know the evidence *against* evolution. The biological establishment, I believe, opposes this, but considering opposing evidence is good science.

#### References

- Brooke, T. and M. Muggeridge. 1991. Dialogues with Malcolm Muggeridge. *Spiritual Counterfeits Project Journal* 16(2):34-39.  
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 Koop, C. E. 1986. Personal correspondence to P. G. Humber (March 28).  
 Purves, W. K., G. H. Orians, and H. C. Heller. 1992. *Life: the science of biology*. Sinauer. Sunderland, MA.

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Additional comments by Paul G. Humber, 11/8/2023

"The main publication of the Creation Research Society is its quarterly, **peer-reviewed** journal which emphasizes original research and the reinterpretation of existing scientific data within the creationist framework. The journal carries both technical and popular articles in most major scientific and allied disciplines, and thus is of interest to individuals from a wide range of backgrounds. The [Creation Research Society Quarterly](http://www.creationresearch.org/crs-publications) (CRSQ), first published in 1964, continues to be recognized worldwide as the premier journal in its field" From (<http://www.creationresearch.org/crs-publications>).

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Paul G. Humber is the author of books, which may be accessed here, <https://www.cr-ministries.org/cr-bookstore>. Some are on Amazon and elsewhere. Many of his videos are available on YouTube, such as:

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| NIETZSCHE PROVEN FALSE!                                                                            | <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9IyTuI2Fcqw">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9IyTuI2Fcqw</a>                         |
| Hitler Opposed by Many Christians                                                                  | <a href="https://youtu.be/p-JSwm AHL58">https://youtu.be/p-JSwm AHL58</a>                                                     |
| MENDEL = CREATIONIST,                                                                              | <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qIU6mTH4Tb0">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qIU6mTH4Tb0</a>                         |
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| ISAAC NEWTON & THE TRINITY,                                                                        | <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Aa6z7mZBxok">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Aa6z7mZBxok</a>                         |
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| TRINITY in the OLD TESTAMENT,                                                                      | <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SlrLueWXDTs">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SlrLueWXDTs</a>                         |
| "NEVER DIE"                                                                                        | <a href="https://youtu.be/nSxF1x9q-VY">https://youtu.be/nSxF1x9q-VY</a>                                                       |
| 400 Prophecies, Appearance or Foreshadowings of Christ in the Tanakh                               | <a href="https://store.biblearchaeology.org/products/abr-bhb-199">https://store.biblearchaeology.org/products/abr-bhb-199</a> |
| Why Does Evil Exist? What does the Bible say?                                                      | <a href="http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PtF5Pz347eI">http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PtF5Pz347eI</a>                           |
| Exponential Number, 10 <sup>18</sup> , PASSOVER, Isaac Asimov, Calculus, Haverford School Assembly | <a href="http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H6tzNuwdFPg">http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H6tzNuwdFPg</a>                           |
| TWO BIBLE COINS -- HAVERFORD SCHOOL ASSEMBLY                                                       | <a href="http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BQuRzV_QMv4">http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BQuRzV_QMv4</a>                           |
| Ebed Melech, Jeremiah 38-39, Ethiopian who trusted in the Lord                                     | <a href="http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ODULjVI1nys">http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ODULjVI1nys</a>                           |