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The Evolution Controversy: Who Is Fighting With Whom About What?

Evolution: From Creation To New Creation

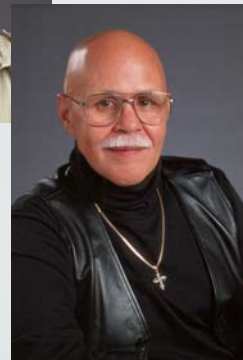
- Dr. Ted Peters

- Lutheran
- Theologian/ethicist
- Professor, Pacific Lutheran
Theological Seminary, Graduate
Theological Union

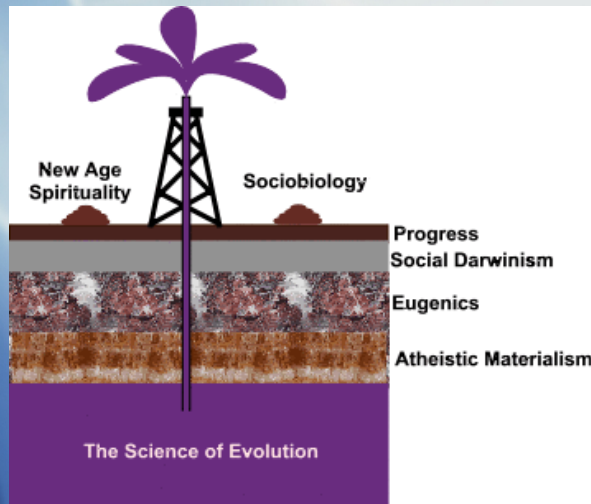


- Dr. Martinez Hewlett

- Roman Catholic
- Molecular biologist/philosopher of science
- Professor emeritus, University of Arizona
- Adjunct Professor, Dominican School of
Philosophy and Theology, Graduate
Theological Union



Drilling for the Pure Science



What is Science? What is Biology?

- A systematic way of viewing the natural/living world
 - Biological science as a way of seeing – e.g., the biologist's point of view
- The application of a method (e.g., the hypothetico-deductive method) to specific aspects of the natural/living world
 - Biological science as an activity
- A body of knowledge obtained by the scientific method
 - Science as an area of study (e.g., "I'm majoring in biology")

What is Darwinian Evolution?

- Descent with modification from a common ancestor
- Natural selection influences reproductive success
 - “natural” is used as a counterpoint to “artificial selection” as practiced by breeders
- Current species are the result of this process over a long span of time
 - Deep time (geological)



Kinds of Evidence in Support of the Darwinian Model

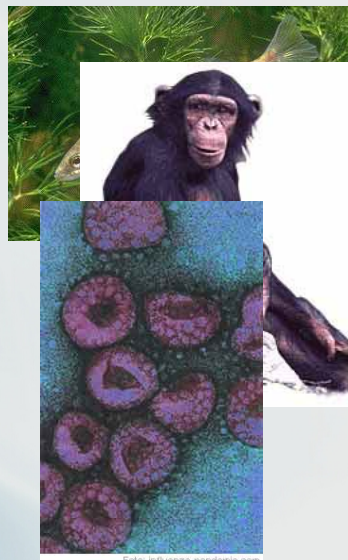
- The fossil record
- Phylogenetics/cladistics
- Molecular data
 - Protein
 - DNA

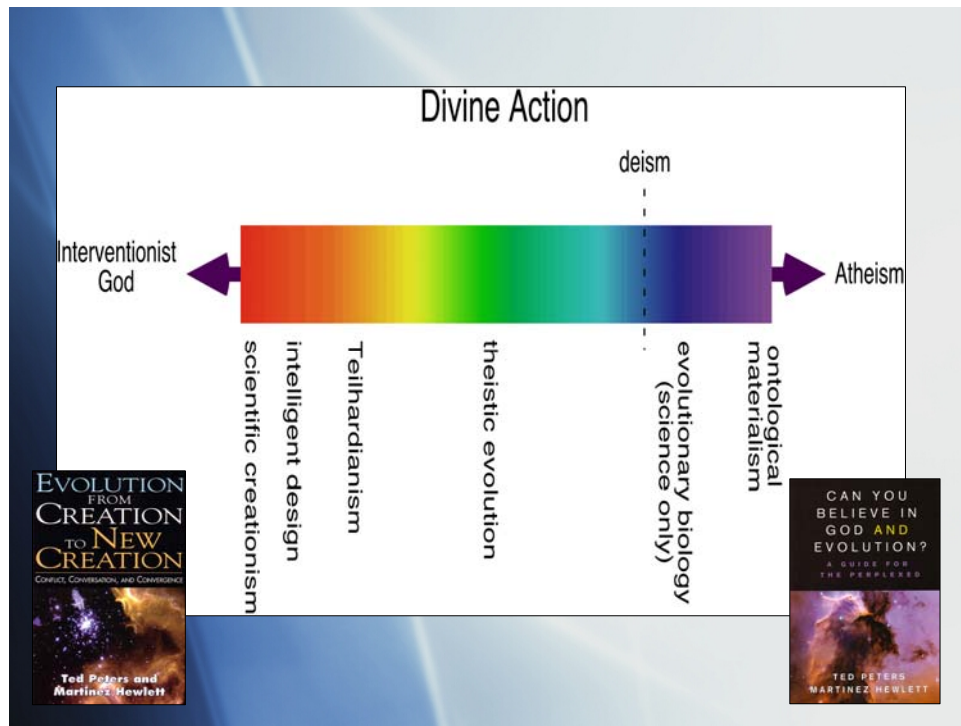
Fertility?



The Fruitfulness of the Model

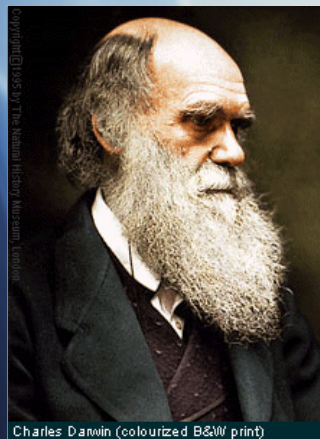
- Three current examples:
 - Speciation in sticklebacks
 - Chimpanzee vs. human DNA
 - Influenza viruses





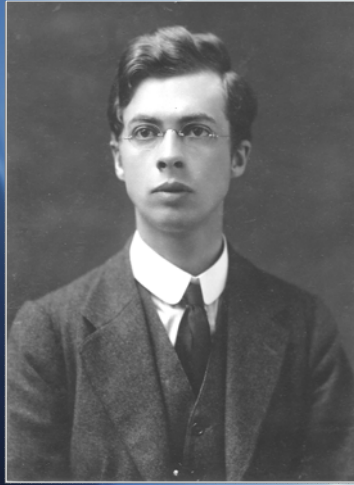
Ontological Materialism

(Reductionism)



**Darwin
Made
Atheism
Possible!**

- Richard Dawkins



**“The evolutionary vision
is enabling us to discern...
the lineaments of a
new religion.”**

- 1959

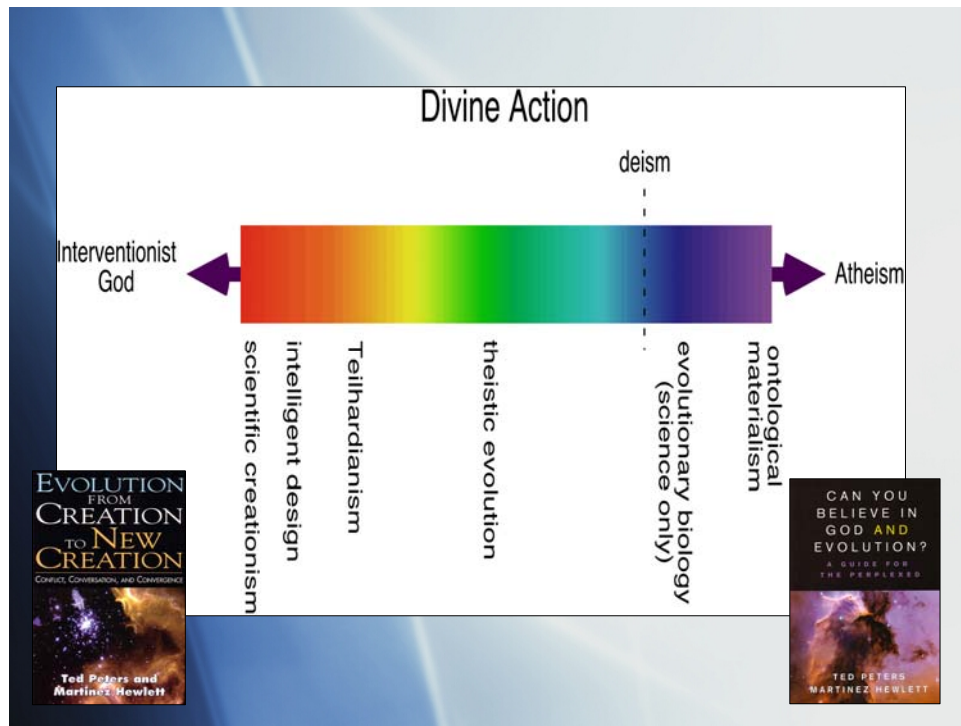
Julian Huxley

Darwin Enshrined?

- Nature News
 - *Nature* **447**, 896 (21 June 2007)
- World Heritage site application withdrawn by British government
- Comment: James More, Open University, Milton Keynes:
 - “Muslims go to Mecca, Christians go to Jerusalem, Darwinians go to Downe.”



Downe House, Kent

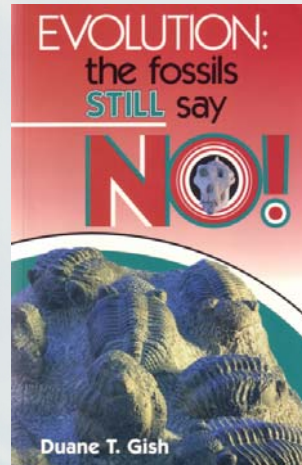
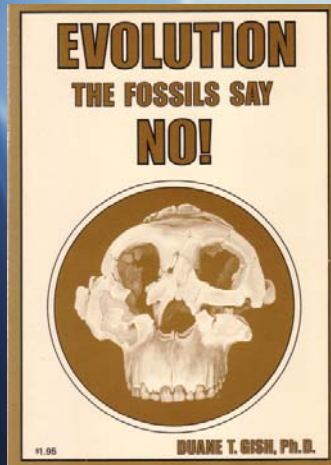


Institute for Creation Research



*Scientific Creationism...Biblical Creationism
(Answers in Genesis)*

Duane Gish



Paluxy River, Glen Rose, Texas



Sauropod
(*Brontosaurus*)
right hind foot
Estimate: 113 million years



Paluxy River, Glen Rose, Texas



Human Footprint?

Paluxy River, Glen Rose, Texas



Human Footprint?

Young Earth Creationism

(Scientific Creationism)

1. **Creation out of nothing**
2. **Recent origin: 10,000 yrs**
3. **Species fixed at origin**
4. **Microevolution: yes**
5. **Macroevolution: no**
6. **Separate ancestry for humans and apes**
7. **Flood geology explains layers of fossils**



5 Fundamentals

- 1. Inerrancy of Scriptures in original documents
- 2. Deity of Jesus Christ...virgin birth
- 3. Substitutionary Atonement
- 4. Physical Resurrection on Easter
- 5. Miracle Working Power of Jesus

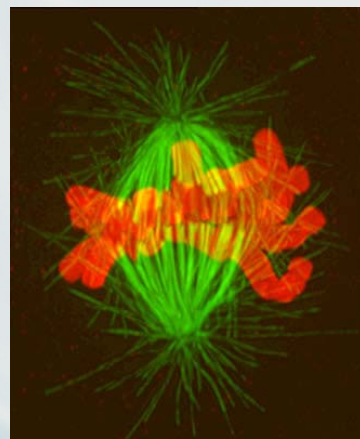
- Also Rans: Natural Depravity; Justification by Faith; Premillennialism; Literal Heaven & Hell.

Intelligent Design: A Definition

- An object or process in the natural world is so complex that its existence cannot possibly be explained by standard, naturalistic models (i.e., neo-Darwinian evolution). Therefore, the object or process must have had an intelligent designer

Design in Biology

- An Example: Spindle fibers during mitosis
 - The question: What are these fibers and what do they do?
 - Two kinds of answers
 - Structural
 - Functional
 - Non-teleological answer is impossible
 - Teleonomy?



The Work of the Angelic Doctor

- St. Thomas
 - Summa Theologica
 - Summa Contra Gentiles
- The “ways” of knowing something about God
 - Analogous knowledge



The Fifth Way

- Erroneously called the “argument from design”
- Actually, an argument from governance
 - “The fifth way is taken from the governance of the world...” (Summa Theologica)
 - “Therefore the whole operation of nature must be directed by some knowledge. This must be traced back to God mediately or immediately...” (Summa Contra Gentiles)
- What does this mean?

Primary vs. Secondary Causes

- Primary Cause
 - Properly ascribed to God
 - “the uncaused cause,” “the prime mover”
- Secondary cause
 - Everything else
 - Processes and objects in the natural world
 - This is what science seeks to investigate

Intelligent Design

- Rev. William Paley
 - “Natural Theology” (1802)
 - Watch/watchmaker analogy
 - Source of Dawkins title
 - Makes the processes and objects of governance proof for God’s existence
- Michael Behe
 - “Darwin’s Black Box” (1998)
- William Dembski
 - “No Free Lunch” (2001)



St. Thomas Aquinas

Summa Theologica, Part 1, Q2, Art. 3, Response

The fifth way is taken from the governance of the world. We see that **things which lack intelligence, such as natural bodies, act for an end**, and this is evident from their acting always, or nearly always, in the same way, so as to obtain the best result. Hence it is plain that not fortuitously, but designedly, do they achieve their end. Now **whatever lacks intelligence cannot move towards an end, unless it be directed by some being endowed with knowledge and intelligence; as the arrow is shot to its mark by the archer.** Therefore some intelligent being exists by whom all natural things are directed to their end; and this being we call God.

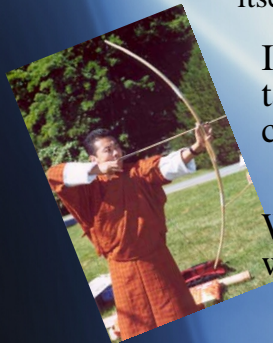
Thomas' Archer Analogy



- Consider and archer, an arrow in flight and a target

What can science see?

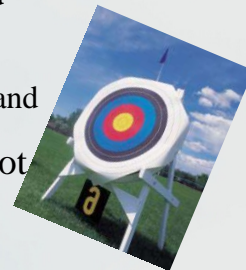
Science, by choice, can only see the arrow itself (secondary causes)

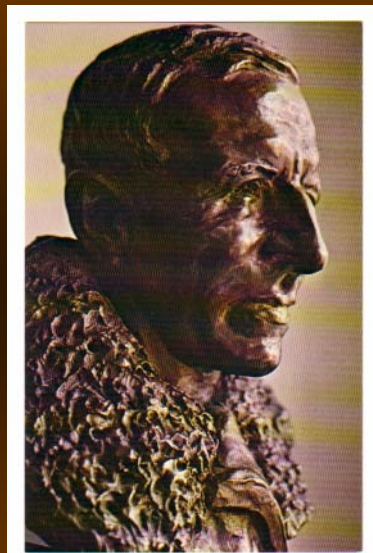
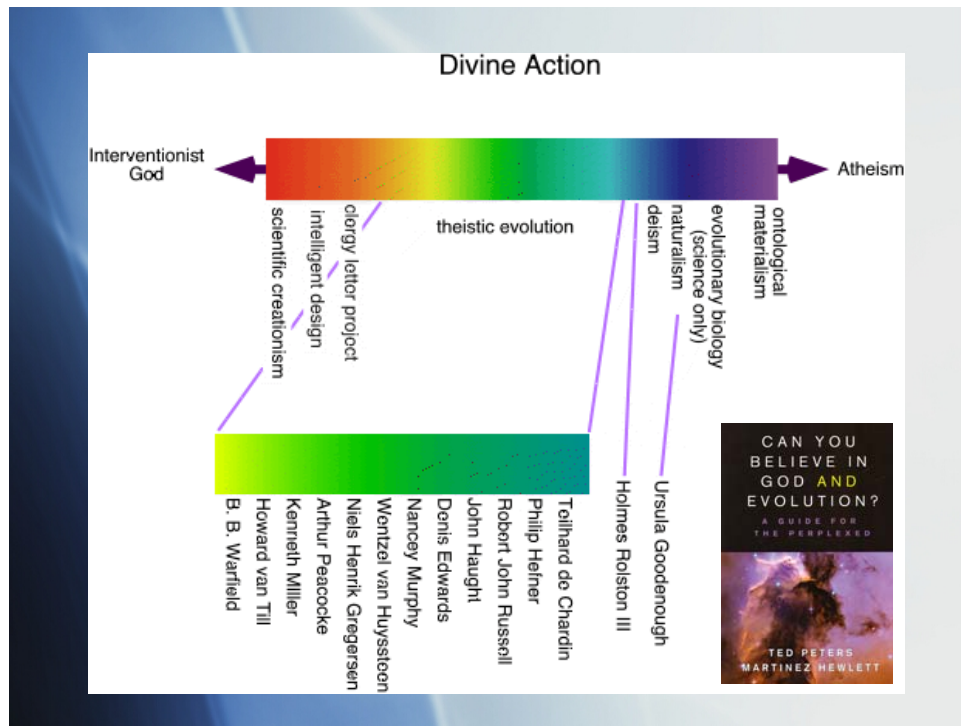


In order to see the archer and target, we need to be able to consider purpose

This is the job of philosophy and theology

We see purpose for nature, not within nature





**“Man...is nothing else
than evolution becoming
conscious of itself.”**

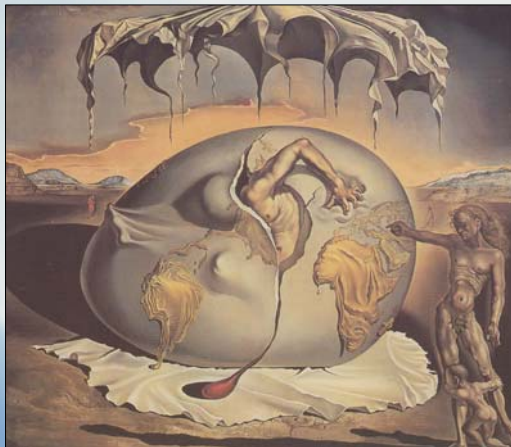
Pierre Teilhard de Chardin (1881-1955)
The Phenomenon of Man, p.220

THEISTIC EVOLUTION: A CONSTRUCTIVE PROPOSAL

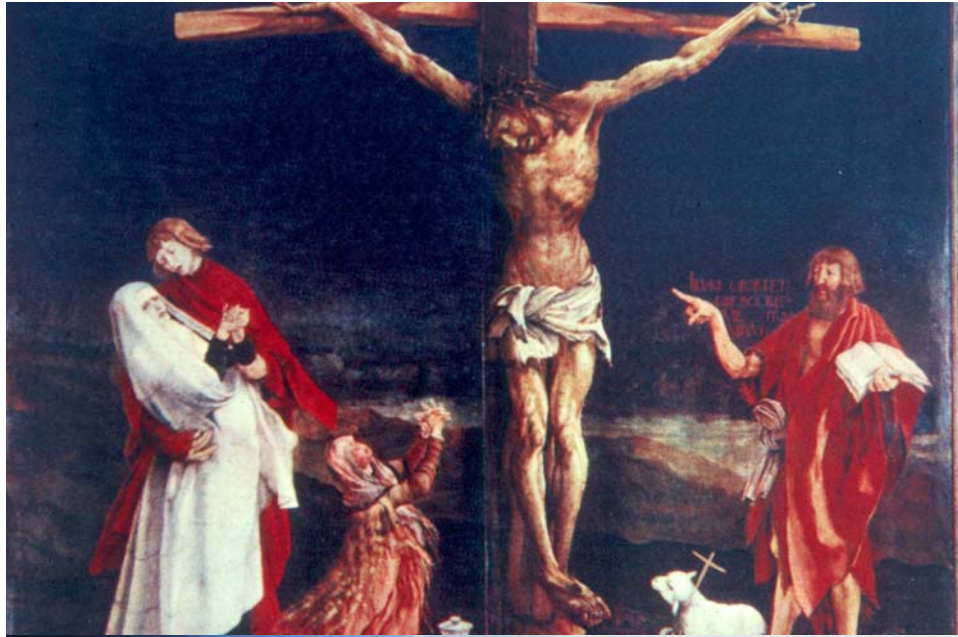
- Only the Best Science !
- Primary & Secondary Causation
- Eschatology rather than Entelechy
- Not purpose *in* Nature but *for* Nature
- Theology of the Cross & Resurrection
- Science as Vocation

The Theodicy Question

**Did God
create
us with
selfish
genes?**



Dali



Mattheis Grunwald, Isenheim Altar, 1512-1515, Colmar

Theology of the Cross



Theology of the Resurrection & New Creation

Matthias Grunwald
Isenheim Altar
1512-1515, Colmar

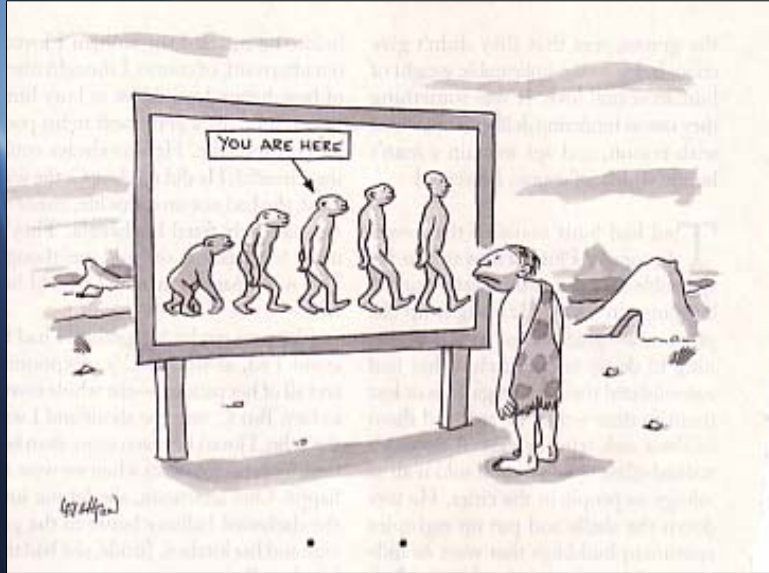


New Creation



Fritz Eichenberg, "Peaceable Kingdom"

Theistic Evolution?



Bye, Bye

