



Think & Believe

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Evolution Not Evident

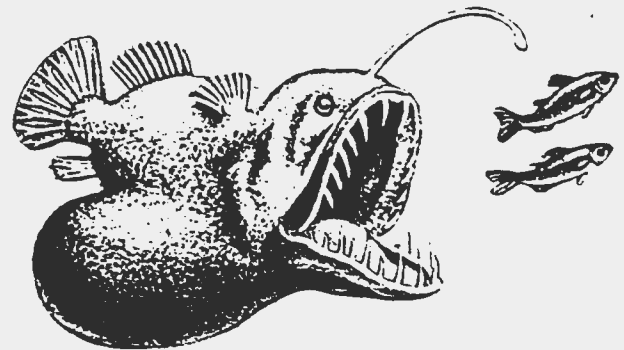
by Dave & Mary Jo Nutting

Is it worth getting into a discussion about creation with an evolutionist? Does it do any good? The answer, of course, depends upon the individual and you will not know until after you have tried. Remember, most evolutionists have never personally examined the supposed evidence of evolution. They do not realize that even though evolution is heralded as proven fact in most "academic" circles, the more closely it is examined, the more gaping are its holes. However, since they have never been presented with an alternative, they have accepted it by default as the majority opinion. After all, thousands of scientists couldn't all be wrong, could they?

Actually, evolution cannot hold up to careful scientific scrutiny. The complex structures and interrelated parts of living things are a testimony to the creative genius of a Master Designer, not the random results of time, chance and natural processes. In past issues of *Think & Believe* we have spotlighted for you many such marvelously designed creatures. For example, do you remember the woodpecker with its unique tongue storage system and the archerfish with its "rifle-barrel" mouth for shooting pellets of water at insects hanging or flying above the water? These creatures clearly illustrate the way in which complex parts fit together in a coordinated way to perform specialized functions. Observation and logical inference tell us this is good evidence of design, not time and chance. In another issue we considered the bombardier beetle with its unusual ability to shoot boiling hot gases at would-be predators, another powerful example of the same principle. The birds, whales, platypuses, and ants

all point to marvelous engineering design that is not adequately explained by evolution. If you present such evidence in a gentle and loving way, it can be quite significant in helping others realize the inadequacies of the evolutionary model. (Hopefully you have saved the past issues of *Think & Believe* so you can refer back to them. If not, feel free to write for back issues of those you are missing.)

Those who are willing to look objectively at the evidence often opt to reject evolutionary speculation and begin giving credit to God the Creator rather than to "Mother Nature." Our seminars are designed to give people the opportunity to evaluate what they have been taught and may have blindly accepted about evolution. The articles in *Think & Believe* are also meant to cause people to do just that: think and believe! However, we cannot speak to everyone. That is where you fit in. We encourage you to use the material contained in our seminars and this publication, as well as the numerous other good creationist materials available to help your friends begin "thinking and believing."



A Fish Going Fishing — see Spotlight on Science

NOTES & QUOTES

■ The chance that complex structures such as the tongue sheath of the woodpecker, the firing mechanism of the bombardier beetle, or our own eyes could have formed by time and chance is infinitesimally small. In fact, the chance of evolving just one protein was shown to be 10000 times worse than having a blindfolded person find a single blue marble in a universe filled with red marbles three times in a row. (See *Think & Believe* — May/June 1985). That is nowhere close to getting the intricacies of the eye or other designed features.

- The origin of life is such an improbable event. It requires such a precise combination of conditions that the chance that it will occur is infinitesimal [ed. He still believes evolution is a fact!] (Ernst Mayer, *Omni*, February, 1983, p. 119)

■ The Wistar Institute examined the mathematical challenges to evolutionary theory and published the findings in a book entitled *Mathematical Challenges to the Neo-Darwinian Interpretation of Evolution*. At this famous joint conference of mathematicians and biologists, it was shown mathematically by Dr. Ulam that it was virtually impossible for the eye to have evolved. What was the response by staunch evolutionists to this 'inconvenient' problem?

- Somehow or other by adjusting these figures we will come out all right. We are comforted by knowing that evolution has occurred. (Dr. Ernst Mayer, p. 30)
- It is, indeed, a fact that the eye has evolved; and, as Waddington says, the fact that it has done so shows that this [Dr. Ulan's] formulation is, I think, a mistaken one. (Sir Peter Medawar, p. 29)

■ The starting point for some then is the "fact" of evolution which must ultimately dictate whether to accept or reject other pertinent data. This is precisely the claim that staunch evolutionists try to level against creationists. They say that we assume first that creation is true and then try to make the facts fit our assumption. As Ernst Mayer says "by adjusting these figures we will come out all right." In order to fit evolution with the facts, the facts and figures must be juggled!

■ Just as much as evolution is believed as fact, it is also presented as fact in books. Here is how the "evolution of the fish" is discussed:

- Important changes also took place among the proto-fish The creatures had acquired jaws. The bony scales in the skin which covered them grew larger and sharper and became teeth. No longer were the backboneed creatures of the sea lowly sifters of mud and strainers of water. Now they could bite. Flaps of skin grew out of either side of the lower part of the body, helping to guide them through the water. These eventually became fins. Now they could swim. (David Attenborough, *Life on Earth*)

■ This sounds good, but it is just a story! Do other evolutionists have the proof of this evolution?

- But whatever ideas authorities have on the subject, the lungfishes, like every other major group of fishes that I know have their origins firmly based in nothing. I have often thought how little I should like to have to prove organic evolution in a court of law. (Errol White, *Proceedings of the Linnean Society of London*, Vol. 177, p. 8, 1966)

■ There is nothing scientifically to support the evolutionary view of the origin of fish. However, the Genesis account is consistent with all the known facts of science and it provides a logical and satisfying explanation. Why not accept it as the testimony of the One Who was there?

- And God said, Let the waters bring forth abundantly the moving creature that hath life, and fowl that may fly above the earth in the open firmament of heaven. And God created great whales, and every living creature that moveth, which the waters brought forth abundantly, after their kind, and every winged fowl after his kind; and God saw that it was good. And God blessed them, saying, Be fruitful, and multiply, and fill the waters in the seas, and let fowl multiply in the earth. And the evening and the morning were the fifth day. (Genesis 1:20-23)

SPOTLIGHT ON SCIENCE

Gone Fishing

It's summer time and stories abound about favorite fishing spots and "the big one that got away." Around here (Colorado), familiar fish include trout, blue-gills, bass and catfish. Elsewhere other game fish are favored, but there are thousands of other types of fish most of us will never see, except in a book, movie, or aquarium. Many of these exhibit strange and exotic characteristics which fascinate novice and expert alike.

For example, did you ever catch an anglerfish in your favorite fishing hole? These are actually fish that go fishing. One type has a miniature "lightbulb" attached to a long, tough filament which it dangles a little ways in front of its nose as it swims along. The light attracts smaller fish in the great depths where the fish lives its life in perpetual darkness — an ingenious method of catching a dinner! Wonder if spotlighting is legal in this locale? Another ingenious anglerfish actually uses a "lure." Part of the back fin is shaped and moved in such a way that it appears like a tiny fish. Other fish come in to attack, but find themselves being swallowed up in the jaws of the angler which was well camouflaged and had been holding very still.

Camouflage, of course, is a common strategy used both in obtaining food and in avoiding becoming food yourself. Many fish are well-camouflaged to resemble the rocky or sandy bottom where they blend in and wait quietly for unsuspecting prey to venture too close.

Other fish depend upon their great speed to catch prey. Fish like the piranha and the barracuda are streamlined and have powerful muscles needed for a successful chase. Many also have sharp teeth and powerful jaws to complete the task.

Surprisingly, some of the very large fish like the whale shark use a fishing operation much like seining. Vast quantities of water are passed through the mouth and out the gills. Tiny sea life (plankton) is strained out by teeth, gills, or other specialized devices. (Great whales like the Blue Whale use a similar method, straining out plankton on the baleen plates in their mouths.) Millions of these tiny creatures are needed to feed some of the larger varieties of fish each day.

Fish that live in darkness at great depths have some very interesting means of obtaining food. One, the Gulper Eel, swims along with its enormous mouth open, just waiting for something to swim in. It sort of reminds you of a trawler. A light on the tip of its tail evidently attracts the prey. Another, the Black Swallower, swallows its food whole and later digests the prey in its enormous stomach. It sometimes swallows fish even larger than itself.



A Bird That Fishes?

Fish are not the only creatures that go fishing. One kind of bird drops a shiny pebble into the water as bait. It then waits quietly until a fish comes near to investigate and moves in quickly for the catch. Another bird, the Blue Heron, goes "fly fishing." It drops an insect in the water and waits for a fish to attack. Then of course, there are the birds like the osprey and the eagle which circle above the water until a fish comes close to the surface and then go into a power dive to get their prey.

Many mammals are also quite efficient fishermen. Many an angler envies the ease with which bears and raccoons catch their limit. Sea mammals seem to have it even easier. Seals and porpoises catch their prey with speed and agility. The Humpback Whale sometimes uses a unique method. These whales actually swim around a school of fish, releasing bubbles as they go, creating a sort of "bubble net." The fish could escape through the bubbles if they tried, but apparently they become so confused that most don't try and the whale has fish for dinner.

Next time you grab your rod and reel, take some time to think about all the other creatures that have also taken the day to go fishing. Fish are extremely important in the "web of life" that exists on our planet. Take some time to thank the Creator for fish and all the other interesting and useful creatures He has put here for our good and for our pleasure.

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Books! Books!



School is just around the corner. Whether your children (grandchildren, nieces, nephews, neighbors, friends, etc.) are in preschool or university, they need to be prepared to counteract the evolutionary teaching that is so prevalent in our society. One of the best ways to help them do this is to provide them with good creationist books. The following are some of our favorites:

For Children:

- Great Dinosaur Mystery and the Bible* (\$10.95)
(This is great for all ages 4-94)
- Dinosaurs: Those Terrible Lizards* (\$8.95)
- Dry Bones and Other Fossils* (\$5.95)
- Dinosaur ABC's Fun Pack* (\$4.95)

For High School, College, Adults:

- What Is Creation Science?* (\$10.95)
- Evolution: Challenge of the Fossil Record* (\$8.95)
- The Lie* (\$12.95)
- Evolution, A Theory in Crisis* (\$19.95)
(Although the author still believes that evolution is true, he does a great job of blowing evolution out of the water! A great book for skeptics.)

All of the above books are available from Alpha Omega Institute, P.O. Box 4343, Grand Junction, CO 81502. Please add 10% (minimum \$1.50) for shipping and handling or just request your books with your donations to our ministry.

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Summer Activities



Summer is a good time to emphasize creation. We are thankful for the opportunity to share the evidences for creation at the following churches, seminars, conferences and camps this summer:

- Mennonite Fellowship, Grand Junction, CO
- Seventh Day Adventist Church, Palisade, CO
- Community showing of *The Genesis Solution*, sponsored by the Christian Church, Parachute, CO
- Homeschool Conference, sponsored by H.O.M.E., Denver, CO
- Creationfest, Redlands Community Church, Grand Junction, CO
- Senior Camp, Ouray Faith Bible Camp, Montrose, CO
- Women's A-Glow, Montrose, CO
- Special Seminar, Colorado Mountain College, Rifle, CO
- Discipleship Training School, YWAM, Cimarron, CO

We're also thankful for the great group of families that participated in the Third Annual Creation Family Camp at Meadowdale Ranch. If you weren't there, you missed a great time of fun and fellowship. Where else can you walk a tightrope 30 feet above the ground, ride a zipline at 35 mph, pet a live woodchuck, meet so many new friends, and learn so much all in one week? We hope you will plan to attend next year. Watch for announcement of dates in future issues of *Think & Believe*.

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