

### STUDY GUIDE

### NOTES

There are two competing explanations for the change observed in animal and human populations. Is what we observe best explained by the Biblical view or the secular view?

1. Biblical model for change in animals:
  - a. God commanded the living things He created to multiply 'after their kind'—an expression repeated 10 times in Genesis 1.
  - b. Adam's sin brought a curse on the entire creation; one consequence was that mutations began to accumulate in DNA.
  - c. Noah had 2 of each 'kind' (seven of the clean) of air-breathing land animal (probably around 16,000 individual animals) with him on the Ark. After the animals disembarked and began to multiply, they would have migrated to various areas and adapted to the area they settled in.
  - d. We observe reproduction within the created 'kinds' today, e.g. dogs breed other dogs, weasels breed other weasels, etc.
  - e. Great amounts of information variability still exist today in the animal, plant and human genomes. This means that many varieties can arise within each 'kind' by sorting out already existing information. The number of different offspring that could theoretically be produced from two people is  $10^{2017}$  (compare to the number of atoms in the known universe:  $10^{80}$ ).
2. Suggested mechanisms for molecules-to-man evolution:
  - a. Natural Selection
    - i. Living things are culled based on environmental pressures or changes.
    - ii. This involves a *loss* or redistribution of genetic information as animals become unable to interbreed, so cannot be a mechanism for evolution.
    - iii. Natural selection is basically a *conservative* force, which supports the Biblical teaching that all things were created to reproduce 'after their kind.'

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#### b. Mutations

- i. Mutations are copying mistakes as genetic information is passed from parent to child.
- ii. This also involves a *loss* or corruption of the original genetic content, not a *net gain*, as is required by fish-to-philosopher evolution.
- iii. This is explained by the Biblical teaching that all things are suffering from the curse God placed on His creation because of Adam's sin (Genesis 3:17–19, Romans 8:20–22).

#### 3. Suggested examples of evolution:

- Antibiotic resistance in bacteria/pesticide resistance in insects
  - i. However, the resistance is, in many cases, *already present* in the bacterial/insect population, or there can be a transfer of resistance from one individual to another, but this does not involve a net gain in *new* information in the biosphere.
  - ii. In some instances the resistance may be gained, but this still involves a net loss of genetic information, due to a mutation.

### CONCLUSION

The worldview one uses to explain change in animals affects one's entire belief system. Evolution (in the molecules-to-man sense) does not/cannot occur, and adopting this worldview can lead to relative morality, lack of standards, etc. The Bible explains the changes we can observe in animals, and accepting the Bible's history thus provides a basis for absolute authority, etc.

### Q U O T E S

**London Natural History Museum, Darwin Exhibit, 1997.**

Before Charles Darwin, most people believed that God created all living things in exactly the form that we see them today. This is the basis of the doctrine of Creation.

Darwin's work supported the view that all living things have developed into the forms we see today by a process of gradual change over long periods of time. This is what is meant by evolution. Many people find that the theory of evolution does not conflict with their religious beliefs.

When weasels breed together, they produce more weasels, like themselves.

**Dr Werner Gitt, *In the Beginning Was Information*, CLV, Bielefeld, Germany, p. 107, 1997.**

...there is no known law of nature, no known process and no known sequence of events which can cause information to originate by itself in matter.

**Dr Lee Spetner, *Not By Chance*, The Judaica Press, Inc., Brooklyn, New York, p.138, 1997.**

All point mutations that have been studied on the molecular level turn out to reduce the genetic information and not to increase it.

**Dr Lee Spetner, *Not By Chance*, The Judaica Press, Inc., Brooklyn, New York, p.159-160, 1997.**

Not even one mutation has been observed that adds a little information to the genome. That surely shows that there are not the millions upon millions of potential mutations the theory demands. There may well not be any. The failure to observe even one mutation that adds information is more than just a failure to find support for the theory. It is evidence against the theory. We have here a serious challenge to neo-Darwinian theory.

**Francisco J. Ayala, *The Mechanisms of Evolution*, *Scientific American*, p. 65, Sept. 1978.**

Insect resistance to a pesticide was first reported in 1947 for the Housefly (*Musca domestica*) with respect to DDT. Since then resistance to one or more pesticides has been reported in at least 225 species of insects and other arthropods. The genetic variants required for resistance to the most diverse kinds of pesticides were apparently present in every one of the populations exposed to these man-made compounds.

