Religion; Anthropocentric Academic Speculation: Davis & Kenyon's "The Fossil Record," Theology of Evolution Ignores God; Evil: Result of Sin & Human Good

Religion. We have examined this aspect of the Hatred Complex under "Demonism," as one of several areas of mental assent to demonism. Whereas Christianity is a relationship with God through faith in Christ, religion is a cosmic invention where man by man's efforts seeks the approbation of God. In Christianity, salvation is *provided* by grace alone in response to the sinner's faith in the Person and work of Jesus Christ. In religion salvation is *sought* through personal merit and good works.

Therefore, salvation is the result of a decision not a process.

Christianity focuses one's attention on serving God by learning and applying His Word. Religion focuses one's attention on improving self in the vain hope of appeasing God without reference to divine guidance. In Christianity, the believer submits to Jesus as his High Priest and to those duly appointed individuals with the spiritual gift of communication. In religion, the heathen, and much too often the believer, submits to a hierarchy of individuals who do nothing to communicate the Word of God and have nothing legitimate to say about Christ but a lot to say about the execution of dead works which are totally absent of grace.

Anthropocentric Academic Speculation.

The word anthropocentric means literally "man centered." Its definition is instructive to our study:

The New Oxford American Dictionary, s.v.:

Anthropocentric: Regarding humankind as the central or most important element of existence, especially as opposed to God.

Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary, 11th ed., s.v.:

Anthropocentric: Considering human beings as the most significant entity of the universe; interpreting or regarding the world in terms of human values and experiences.

Webster's New Twentieth Century Dictionary, 2d ed., s.v.:

Anthropocentric: Regarding man as the central fact, or final aim, of the universe.

Oxford English Dictionary, s.v.:

Anthropocentric: Regarding man as the central fact of the universe, to which all surrounding facts have reference.

The American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language, s.v.:

Anthropocentric: Interpreting reality exclusively in terms of human values and experience.

Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary, 2d ed. s.v.:

Anthropocentric: Interpreting natural processes or phenomena in terms of man or the human mind.

If Lucifer is not able to convince a person to follow one of his religions then he deludes them with doctrines of demons that elevate mankind as the *sine qua non* of the universe. There is no god of any kind to be followed and glorified beyond self.

Progressive ideology thus places top priority on academic credentials for the establishment of truth, e.g., if a "scientist" says it then it is irrefutable truth although "scientists" have a long history of faulty assertions to which man has subscribed to his detriment.

Another area of anthropocentric emphasis is academia. When research is done to the exclusion of divine viewpoint then the conclusions reached are incomplete but supported as if they were handed down at Sinai. Examples are (1) the "Big Bang Theory" which cannot explain the *origin* of the matter and energy that are its catalyst; (2) evolution, which cannot be documented scientifically. This statement needs some clarification so I cite from:

Davis, Percival and Dean H. Kenyon. "The Fossil Record." Chap. 4 in *Of Pandas and People: The Central Question of Biological Origins*. Dallas: Haughton Publishing Co., 1989), 91-94:

It has been widely believed that the methodology of science provides a sort of filter to remove the distortions of knowledge that could come from the individual scientist's philosophy or values. This concept has dominated because most scientific theories such as the germ theory of disease, the theory of gravitation, and Mendel's theory of heredity, are theories about how things operate. So, most science theories can be checked simply by comparing them with what actually occurs. If we have a theory about the earth orbiting the sun, for example, we could propose to test it by predicting a solar eclipse, and then observing to see if it occurs as predicted. Such an empirical check is why some scientists consider science to be value-neutral. Regardless of their individual philosophies or points of view, several scientists conducting the experiment the same way will get the same results. Most scientific theories explain these kinds of repeatable phenomena. (p. 91)

But (Charles) Darwin's theory that all living things evolved by natural selection is very different from most other scientific theories. It is the theory about unique past events, events that have come and gone. However life originated in the first place, by intelligent design or evolution, or however the giraffe or the aardvark originated, they are not "re-originating." These are one-time events. Even if these events are part of a natural law process, they are unique and non-repeating. A biological origin by intelligent design would also be unique, unrepeatable, and irreversible. So theories of origins can't be tested empirically like the theories mentioned earlier. This fact leaves origins theories open to subjectivity and to the interpretive elements of individual viewpoints and values. Since origins are one-time events and origins theories cannot be checked against recurring phenomena, they must be checked by other means. (pp. 91-92)

Major Features of the Fossil Record. In the absence of eyewitness testimony the fossil record provides circumstantial evidence to paleontologists and biologists. There are four notable features of the fossil record that must be considered in attempting to find out how life began:

- 1. First, it is filled with fossils. Fossils are rock replicas of plants or animals or their parts, especially their skeletons.
- 2. The vast majority of the known <u>phyla</u> appear within a geologically "brief" period. Thereafter, no new phyla are added throughout the geological record. The phyla are the major groups of life forms, based upon large differences in basic body plans.
- 3. After fossils first appear in the record they persist largely unchanged through many strata, then frequently they disappear from the record.

 Fossil species are fully formed and functional when they first appear in the record. There is a conspicuous lack of evidence for graded series of inbetween fossils. Instead, numerous gaps exist throughout the fossil record. (p. 92)

Darwin used the fossil record as circumstantial evidence that the species had originated through natural means. Ever since that time many people have cited the fossil record as the best evidence for evolution. Why? Because it could potentially provide impressive circumstantial evidence. If all living things are related to each other through evolutionary descent as Darwin said, would we not expect to find many intermediate or transitional forms between major (classifications)? In fact, the major groups should blend into one another with "evolutionary trails" of innumerable transitional forms connecting the fossil organisms found. The observations of such transitional forms would be excellent material out of which to build a theory of evolution. Yet Darwin was aware of no such fossil evidence. Scientists simply had not discovered among the fossils the "missing links" that should exist were his theory correct. In *The Origin of the Species* he asks rhetorically:

The number of intermediate varieties, which have formerly existed on the earth, [must] be truly enormous. Why then is not every geological formation and every stratum full of such intermediate links? Geology assuredly does not reveal any such finely graduated organic chain; and this, perhaps, is the most obvious and gravest objection which can be urged against my theory. (pp. 93-94)

To his credit, Darwin acknowledged that this was a serious problem. His honesty was disarming and many scientists were sympathetic to the ideas he had developed. After all, they thought, maybe some of the transitional fossils would later be found. Darwin himself expected that these transitional forms would turn up as scientists searched. Today, over 125 years after the publication of Darwin's theory, we know of thousands of fossil organisms that were unknown to Darwin. In fact, about a quarter of a million fossil species have now been catalogued! But the gaps between the major groups of animals have not been filled. (p. 94)

(3) global warming, which we found to be a hoax in Jonah Goldberg's article among other sources.

> Now here are the reasons that believers must have a clear understanding of why it is important to biblically reject these and other forms of anthropocentric speculation:

By constantly pounding home the message that there is no Creator of the universe, no Creator of life—especially mankind, that all of this just happened by chance from preexisting materials, students are led to believe that the earth is the source of life which leads to an over-emphasis on the environment.

Further, it promotes the idea that there is no God and if He does exist He had no personal involvement in any of these things. To believe that man's ultimate ancestor was an amoeba rather than Adam leads to the belief that man has no soul but rather just an advanced form of protoplasm.

To believe that man is destroying the planet fails to consider the fact that only the Lord has this authority and power. To believe that our natural resources are exhaustible ignores the fact God's logistics are unlimited and thus their conservation is dependent upon human panaceas, exemplified by the need for "carbon credits," a sham by which everyone will ultimately be taxed in order for some organization to plant existing trees to solve the problem.

All of these categories in the Arrogance and Hatred complexes culminate in the latter's final category:

Evil. Lucifer's efforts as ruler of this world to produce the perfect environment he professed he would bring about when he stated, "I will make myself like the Most High."

Evil is a combination of sin, which he cannot control, and human good which he promotes. He seeks to diminish the impact of sin by promoting self-righteousness which eventuates in religion or various expressions of legalistic humanism.

It is through these two approaches that Lucifer attempts to control the human race through deception and deceit to construct a perfect environment.

When human good gets momentum, erroneous thinking dominates a society and evil principles paralyze a nation.

Human good and evil amount to Lucifer's failing attempt to control the world he rules with human viewpoint solutions to the total exclusion of divine viewpoint, grace, and doctrine.

Therefore, evil is what happens when the majority of people in a society are in league with the Dark Side. The resultant downtrend causes all systems to malfunction and authority arrogance causes widespread rejection of law and order. Attempts by government become totalitarian and Tha Pepul get the government they deserve.