



IN THE BEGINNING

by Vincent M. Newfield

When it comes to building something, nothing is more important than the foundation. It's *the beginning* part. It must be solid, secure and immovable because everything else is built upon it. The same is true about our faith in God. To a great degree, the foundation of our faith is understanding and believing in what God did *in the beginning*.

Romans 1:20 states that *...ever since the world was created, people have seen the earth and sky. Through everything God made, [we] can clearly see his invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature . . .* (NLT). Understanding and believing that God is the Creator of everything we see, helps us understand the invisible qualities of His character we *can't* see. Unfortunately, many Christians struggle to believe that God actually did create the heavens and the earth, and as a result, they also struggle to believe many other truths found in Scripture.

It Happened to Me. I accepted Christ when I was five, and I've been walking with Him ever since. But when I entered my freshman year of college and had to take a mandatory course on evolution, my faith was severely shaken. For years I had been taught at home and in church that **God** created the heavens and the earth, but suddenly I found myself submerged in a flood of philosophy and "facts" that were totally contradictory to what I had been taught. Words and phrases like *natural selection, adaptation, carbon dating* and *survival of the fittest* were hurled at my head so quickly I hardly had a chance to catch my breath.

Basically, what is being taught in most universities and schools today is that God did *not* create the heavens and the earth. Instead, our universe is the result of a "Big Bang"—a cosmic cataclysmic explosion that happened *suddenly* in the midst of perfect *nothingness*. This explosion supposedly produced the initial primordial material from which everything else evolved. It's taught that all life forms began from a tiny single-celled organism that mutated, separated and replicated itself countless times over billions of years. Eventually, every variety of vegetation and animal known evolved into existence, including man, who supposedly evolved from apes a few million years ago. And all this happened by "chance." Although there are a number of theories of evolution, the basic idea can be summed up in this equation: Nothing X Nothing = Everything.

I Was Desperate for Answers. Like many other God-fearing, God-loving Christians who've endured exposure to the doctrine of evolution, the foundation of my faith in God was traumatized. Doubt and discouragement bombarded my brain to such an extent that my spiritual strength had been sucked right out of me. You see, when God is removed from His role as the Great Creator, the awesomeness and wonder of His immeasurable power are drastically diminished. The smaller God seems, the more difficult it is to put our faith in Him and trust Him with our lives. That's where I was, and that's where many people are today.

In desperation I searched for answers from fellow believers. Thankfully, the Lord connected me with my Uncle Frank, who had faced a similar situation a few years earlier. He gave me a tape that scientifically exposed a number of holes in the theory of evolution. I don't remember all the specific points presented, but what I do remember is this: evolution is a *theory*. Although it's being taught as fact, it's still only a theory—a hypothesis, a speculation, an unproved assumption. Many evolutionists themselves admit that there are many "missing links" in the fossil history, creating an absence of actual proof that transitional forms of life (such as a species that's half-man, half-ape) actually existed.

The Bottom Line Is: It takes *faith* to believe in evolution, and in the estimation of many, it takes *more* faith to believe in evolution than it does to believe that, *in the beginning God created the heavens and the earth* (Genesis 1:1 NLT). Think about it. What's easier to believe—that everything we see evolved out of *nothing*, on its own, totally by chance and for no reason; or that a Supreme Being created everything we see with a *specific plan* and for a *specific purpose*?

I encourage you not to swallow every story you see, hear or read about man's origins. Check things out for yourself...do some research on the subject of creation so that your foundation of faith in God is sound, secure and immovable.

Resources for Further Research:

- *Unlocking the Mysteries of Creation*, by Dennis R. Peterson
- Creation Resource Foundation: www.creationresource.org
- Creation Science Evangelism: www.drdino.com

- The Northwest Creation Network: www.nwcreation.net

These resources are made available for informational purposes only. *Joyce Meyer Ministries* does not necessarily endorse or warrant the content of these media sources.

This article originally appeared in Joyce Meyer's *Enjoying Everyday Life* magazine, copyright 2007.