

© Stichting Jonathan, 2006
ISBN/EAN: 978-90-6327-021-6
NUR 949

This pamphlet may be copied and distributed free of charge, if unaltered.

Evolution or creation? What do you believe?

Contents

- Introduction
- 1. Our thoughts determine what we see !
- 2. Who is God?
- 3. There are different kinds of sciences.
- 4. What happens automatically ?
- 5. A few facts
 - a. Fossils
 - b. Geological strata
 - c. Fossils penetrating through several layers
 - d. Mistakes in textbooks
- 6. Conclusion
- 7. What to do if.....

Introduction

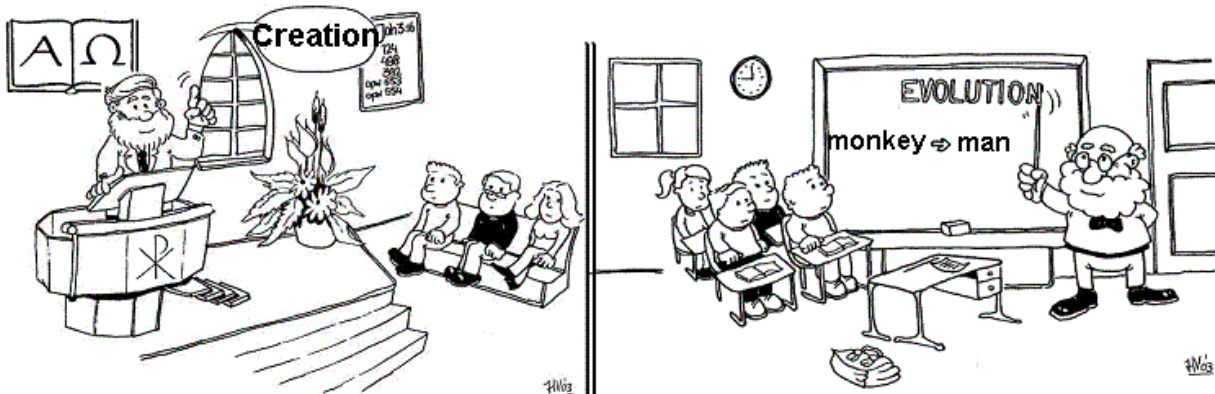
In church and Christian schools, you learn that God has created everything: plants, fish, animals and also man.

But on tv and in periodicals, people are speaking about evolution. And if you go to secondary education, you even have to study the evolution theory.

That theory says that millions of years ago a first living cell came into existence. From that cell gradually developed other living animals like fish, mice and monkeys. From the descendants of that monkey man finally evolved.

In this leaflet, we will try to clarify the viewpoints of creation and evolution. For that reason it is necessary to consider a few difficult questions. Each time a question is printed in *italics*. Try to think of an answer first before you read on.

Think !



Who is right ?

1. Our thoughts determine what we see.

Would a toddler of four enjoy a book without any pictures? Of course not, for that toddler can not read. The toddler only sees black scribbles on the paper. Twelve years old children may enjoy the book, because they can read the exciting story.

When we see something, our thoughts explain what it is or what it means. Our thoughts are actually glasses through we look at something.



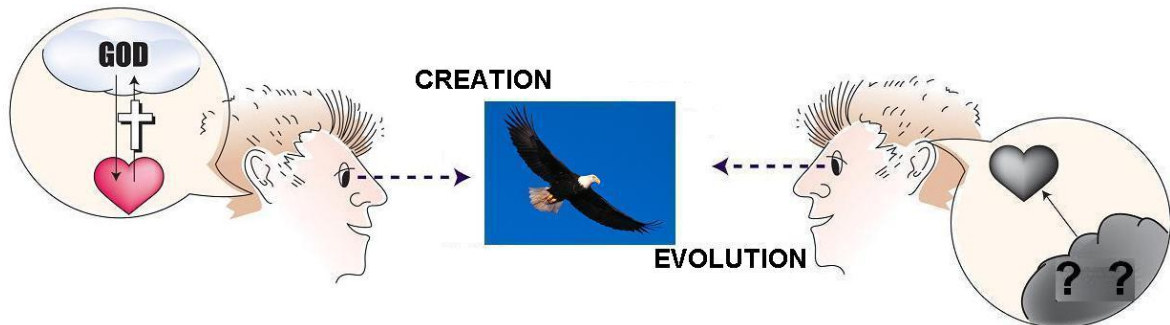
The letters on the paper are real. "They are a fact", we say. How we explain facts, depends on what we know about them.



Think !

Who will see more in a wood: a forester or a child that has always lived in a town?

What we know about something can also depend on what we *want* to know about it. How do we want to look at nature? Do we want to look at nature and man like a creation, that has been made by a powerful God, or do we not want that?



2. Who is God?

A man can make tables, cars, televisions, computers et cetera. All lifeless things. An artist can even make a statue, that is the very image of him self. Yet everybody will know the difference between that statue and the real artist. The artist lives and the statue does not. The artist knows everything about the statue, but the statue knows nothing of the artist and does not understand him at all.

If man is made by a Creator, that Creator will differ from man, in the same manner, just as the artist differs from the statue that he has made from himself. God, who made us, knows everything about us, but man will not be able to understand God.

Think!

The Bible says that God created animals as different kinds, but that man is created in God's image. What do you think is the most important difference between a monkey and a man?



3. There are various kinds of sciences.

People can do an awful lot. Important inventions have been accomplished: more and more complicated equipment and all kinds of medicines are being developed. Men are able to do that through scientific research. Because so much can be made, many people think science can accomplish everything. People should be able to explain the origin of man. But, there are differences in science!

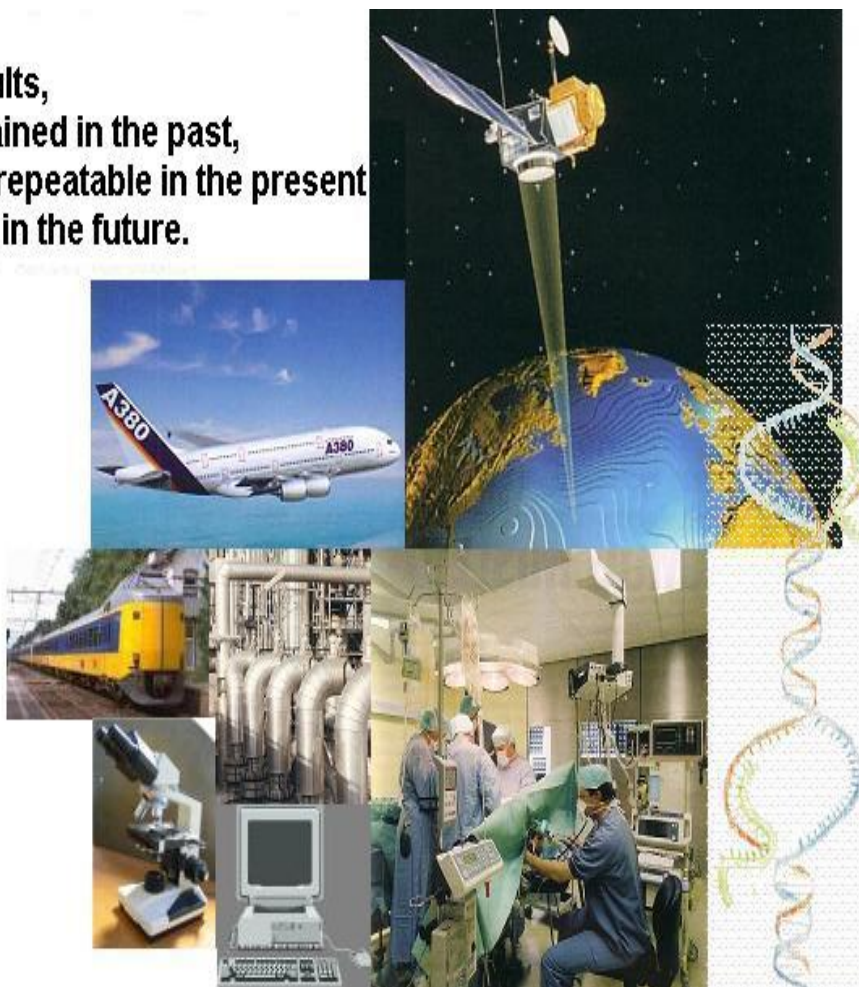
The different sciences can be divided into large groups. For instance:

- technical sciences and
- historical sciences.

Technical science

Technical science examines how things work. Experiments can be made which can be repeated.

**results,
obtained in the past,
are repeatable in the present
and in the future.**



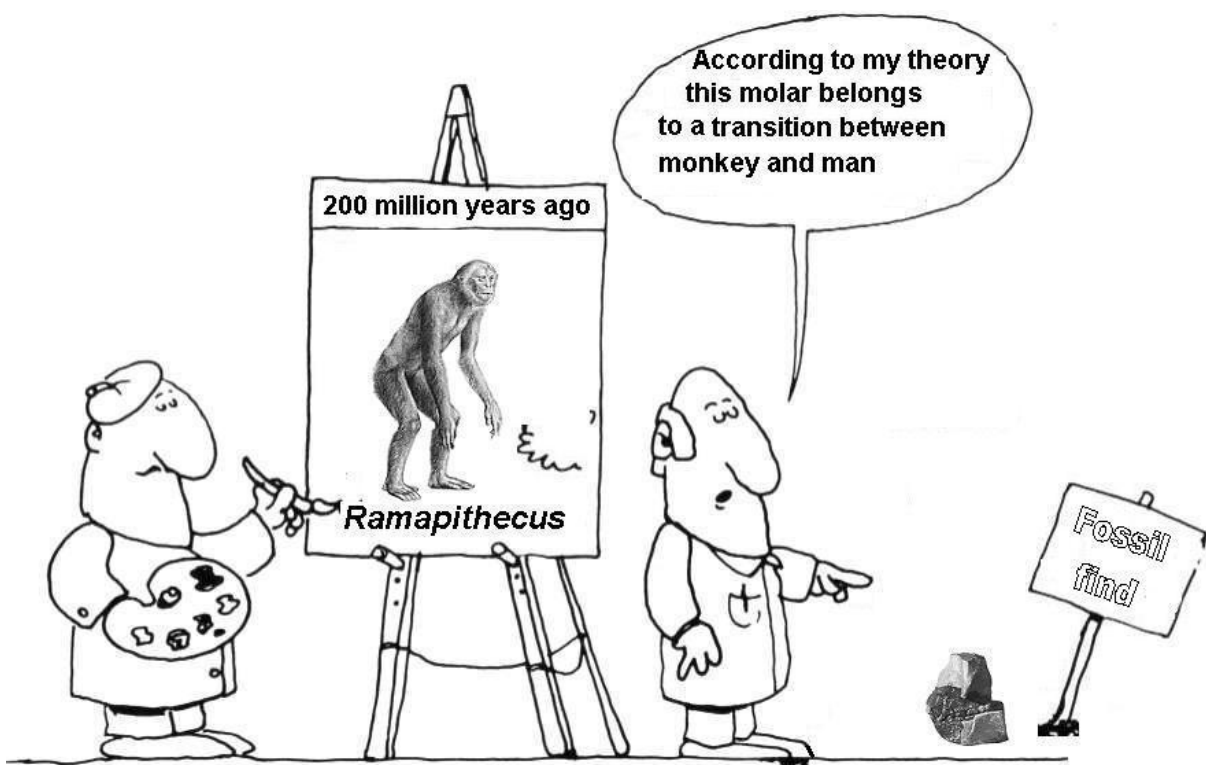
Historical science

Historical science tries to explain how things happened in the past. The historical events cannot be repeated.

It is possible that in a few years an event from the past will be explained quite differently from now. It also depends also from which perspective one looks at an event in the past.

Example

In Sweden, the children look at the Vikings quite differently from the children in the Netherlands. For the Dutch the Vikings were pirates that sailed up the rivers to plunder and to rob the villages. The children in Sweden read about the Vikings as brave adventurers who gathered large amounts of treasures.



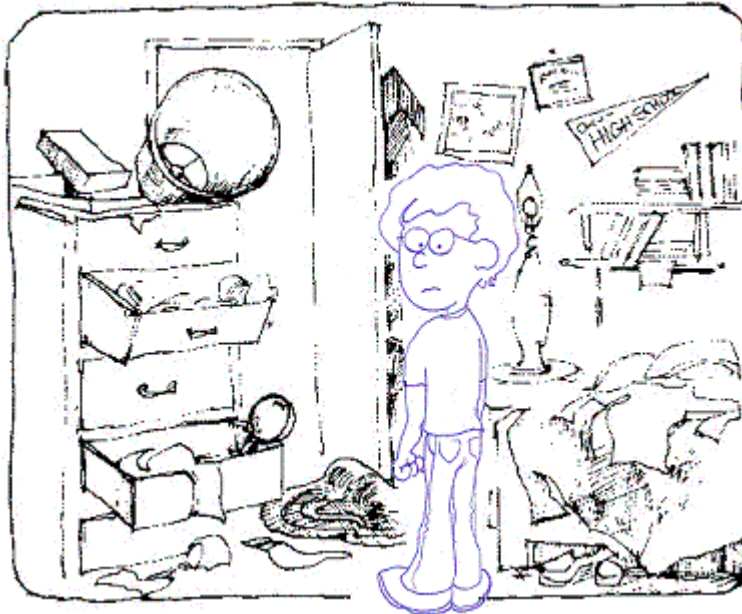
Think!



*The evolution theory gives an explanation about something that happened millions of years ago.
Is that a technical science or a historical science?*

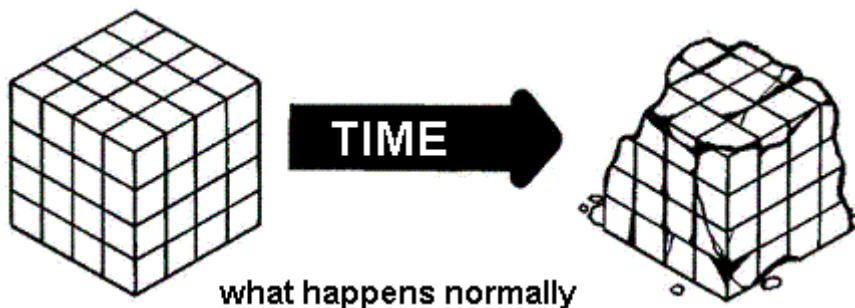
4. What happens automatically ?

Does a room automatically tidy itself or do you have to work hard occasionally?



Experience teaches us that we need to exert ourselves to build something, but that deterioration just happens. If you do not keep the buildings in repair, they become ruins.

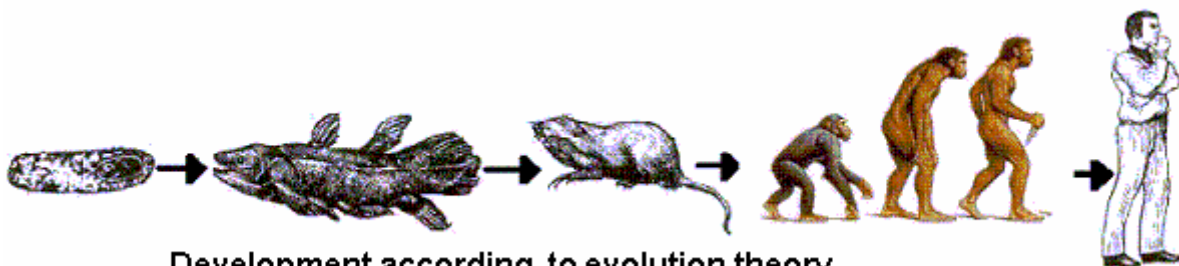
It is hard work to build a house. Even making a pile of stones costs energy.



what happens normally

A construction worker who builds a wall, gets his energy from the sandwiches that he eats. The wheat that is necessary for the sandwiches gets its energy from the rays of the sun.

According to the evolution-theory man has gradually developed: from one cell into a fish, from a fish into a kind of mice and ultimately into a kind of apeman:



Development according to evolution theory

The evolution-theory teaches that the energy needed for this development comes directly from the sun.

Think !

The evolution-theory says that in the past one cell originated spontaneously. From that cell gradually developed man.

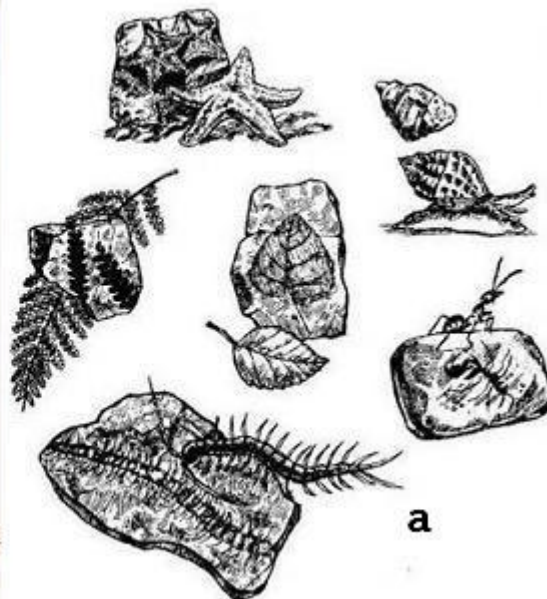
Does that correspond with what you normally see around you?



5. A few facts.

a.Fossils

Fossils are remains or remnants of plants and animals that are found in pieces of stone. In the past there were animal species which are now extinct, like dinosaurs.



There are also many fossils which look exactly like animals living today. (figure a).

Think !

Does it happen in the present that animal species die out?

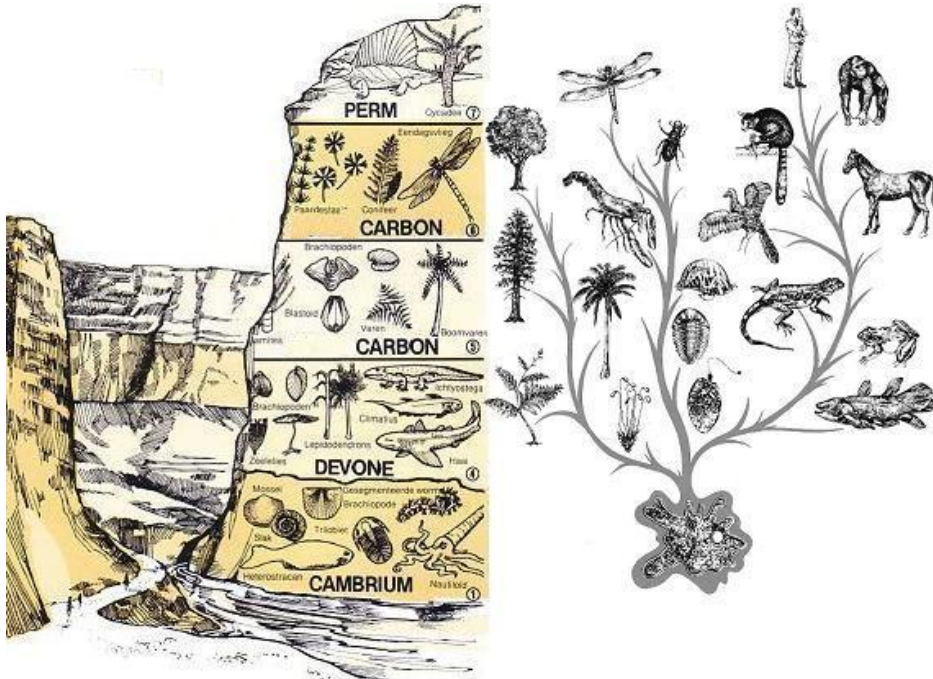
Men believing the Bible, think that God made different kinds of plants and animals. Evolutionists believe that animals continued to develop through millions of years.



In which belief does the discovery of fossils of animals living today fit best?

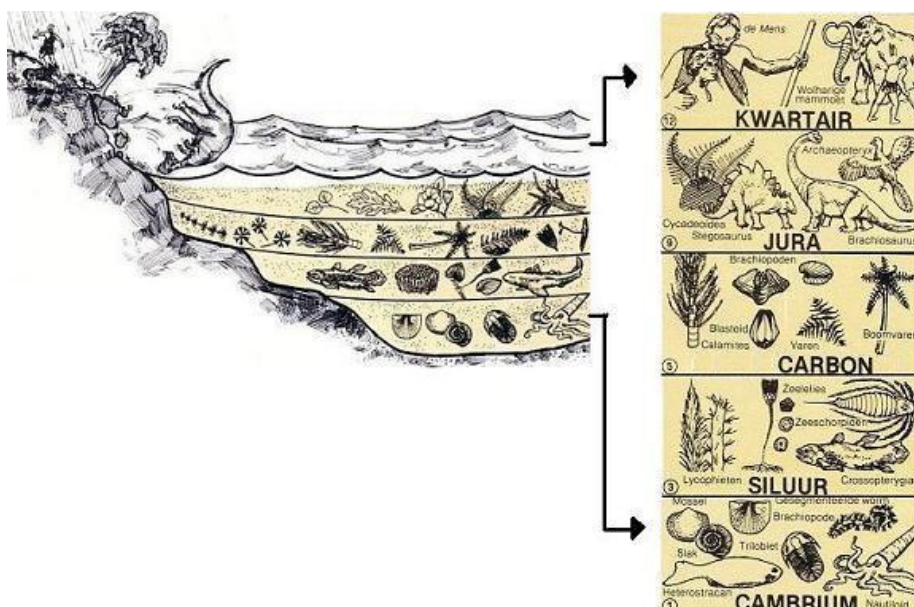
b. Geological strata

Digging in the earth one sees different layers. In these layers, one finds different fossils that are sometimes characteristic for that layer. Scientists have made a list of these layers: the geological column.



In the lower layers there are especially small animal species which live in water and at the top one finds the large animals, but also fossil remnants of men. The evolution theory sees in this succession of layers the proof for a gradual development of life. The simplest animal species are found in the oldest layers at the bottom of the column, the more complicated animal species in the youngest strata at the top of the column.

However, there is also another theoretical explanation possible for this sequence. That explanation is represented in the following figure:



The figure shows tremendous natural disasters: earthquakes, volcano outbursts, floods, landslides etc. The small animals and fishes are buried first. People and animals escape if possible to higher ground, but they drown and their bodies are also covered by sand.



Think !

Which explanation is the simplest?

c. Fossils penetrating through several layers.

Sometimes large numbers of petrified trees are found penetrating through different layers. You can see that in the figure.



Think !

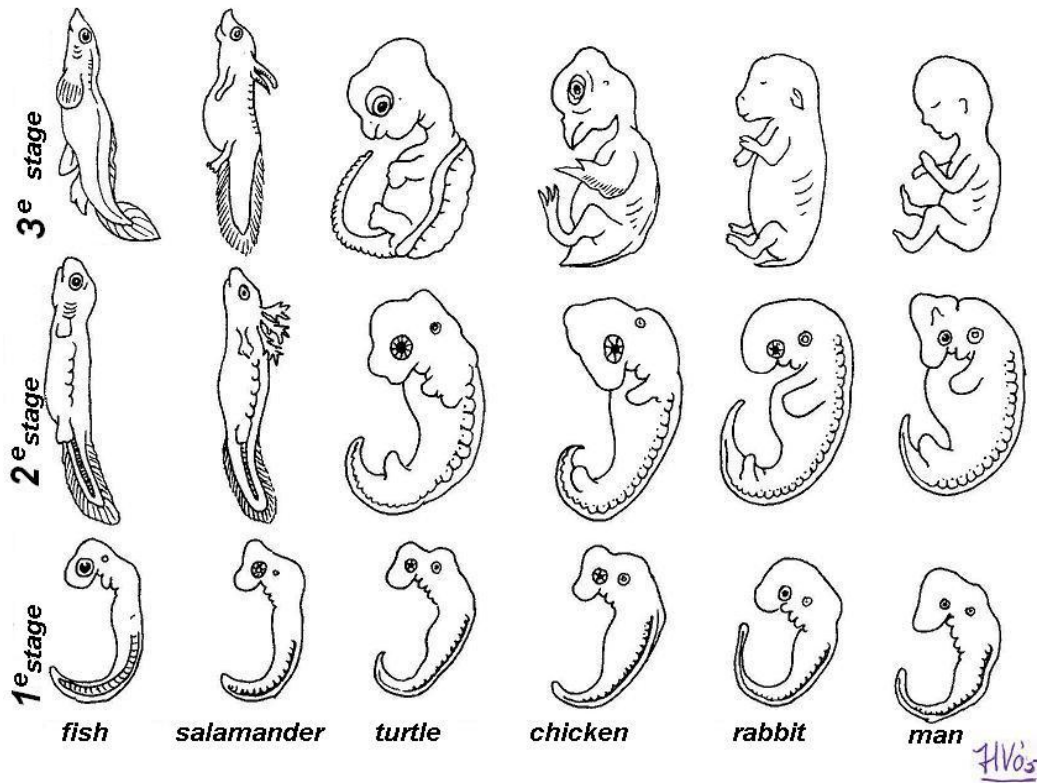
The evolution theory alleges that layers are formed during millions of years. This means that the bottom layer is millions of years older than the top layer.

*How long would those trees have lived?
Can you consider another explanation for occurrence of those petrified trees penetrating through a number of earth layers?*



d. Mistakes in textbooks

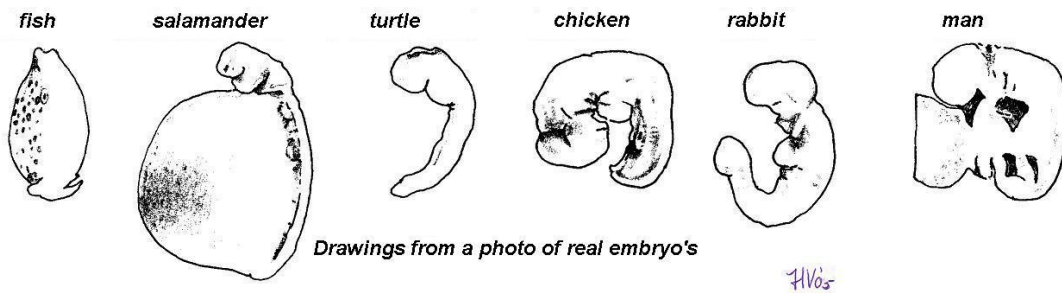
In many textbooks, the following figure is presented.



They are figures of the development of different animals and man in the uterus (embryos). The figures of the embryos on the bottom row bear a striking resemblance to each other.

This is done in order to show man in the mother's womb develops in the same way as fishes, salamanders, turtles, birds and rabbits. That should prove that man is developed through evolution.

But.....the figures of the first stage in the bottom row have been contrived! They have been made for the first time by mr. Haeckel in 1879. Below is the design that has been made from a photograph of real embryos.



Think !

What reason could mr. Haeckel have had in 1879 to draw these embryos so that they resembled each other?

Can you think of a reason why in 2007 these drawings are still being printed in the textbooks?



6. Conclusion.

1. It is technically impossible to prove whether man has come on earth by creation or evolution, for it was an event in the past.
2. History is written from a specific viewpoint, with a definite target.
3. In textbooks for secondary education it is tried to make the evolution theory acceptable with mistakes.
4. You have the choice: believing what is told in evolutionism about the origin of man, or believing what is written in the Bible

If you believe in evolutionism, you have no answer for the next important questions:

- a. From where do you come?
- b. What is the reason of your being here?
- c. Where do you go, when you die?

If you believe in the Bible, you have answers for those important questions. Then you may know that God created you from love and has a plan with your life.

What does the Bible teach us?

The Bible teaches us that God created man well and has given His Spirit to man, through which man had spiritual contact with his Creator.

Thus man is completely different from of animals.

The Bible explains as well that man has wantonly allowed another spirit to enter. That spirit is called devil or Satan. Because of that man was separated from God's Spirit, who is love and righteousness and light.

As a consequence the opposite of evolution was introduced: degeneration (decay).

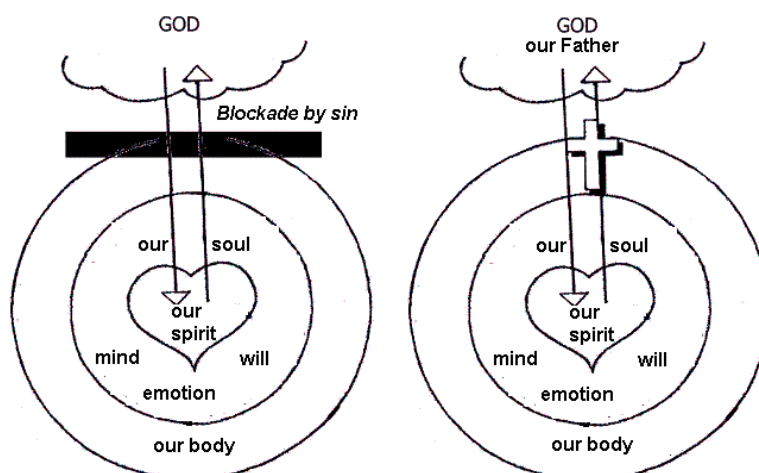
Illness and death occurred and people started to behave like animals.

The Bible tells us that problems began in this world by that Fall and they will only grow. But there is hope!

We cannot come into contact with God by ourselves, for He is holy and righteous and we are sinful. Sin causes separation between God and us.

But there is deliverance in Jesus Christ. In Him Gods Spirit is visible and tangible to us. In Jesus Christ we can see that God is love but also righteous.

By believing that He has borne punishment for our sins, we become God's children. That means Gods Holy Spirit comes into our hearts.



7. What to do if.....

.you have to learn the evolution theory and you must make a test?

Study your book well and give the expected answer, but add: 'It is written like this in my book, but I believe something else.'

You ought to have respect for the opinion of other people. Therefore behave yourself when your teacher speaks of evolution. Be polite when you say that you do not believe in evolution.

If you believe that you are a special creation of God, your conduct should show this.

Do not behave like a cheeky monkey when you are convinced you are a human being created in God's image.

Information from:

1. WEBSITE www.evolutie.biz
2. Leaflet "Evolutie" ; Bijbel&Onderwijs Postbus 951 3800 AZ Amersfoort tel.033-4616265 fax. 033-4657900 e-mail info@bijbelenonderwijs.nl
3. www.bijbelenonderwijs.nl
4. WEBSITE www.creaton.nl

Children from Christian family's sometimes have a hard confrontation with the evolution theory, if they hit in high school teachers believing in the evolution. Even that can lead to isolation of the uncertain adolescents isolated in the class. Therefore a mother did the suggestion to harm children already on the elementary school against the one-sided education in the evolutiontheory in high school. That the reason of this practical pamphlet. The many illustrations and questions can simple processed, but also can serve as a run-up to a conversation. This mini pamphlet has been arranged for 12 year old childrens, but has also proven useful in youth groups and bible classes. Additional material by this pamphlet is to be obtained via www.bijbelenonderwijs.nl, www.dewegwijzer.net and via www.evolutie.biz.

United publication: Association Bible & Education and Foundation Jonathan.

Here to order this dutch publication:

	
Bijbel & Onderwijs Postbus 951 3800 AZ Amersfoort Tel. 033-4616265 Fax 033-4657900 E-mail: info@bijbelenonderwijs.nl	De Wegwijzer Wilhelminastraat 2, 7861 AC Vroomshoop Tel.0546-646126 Fax.0546-646128 Email: info@dewegwijzer.net