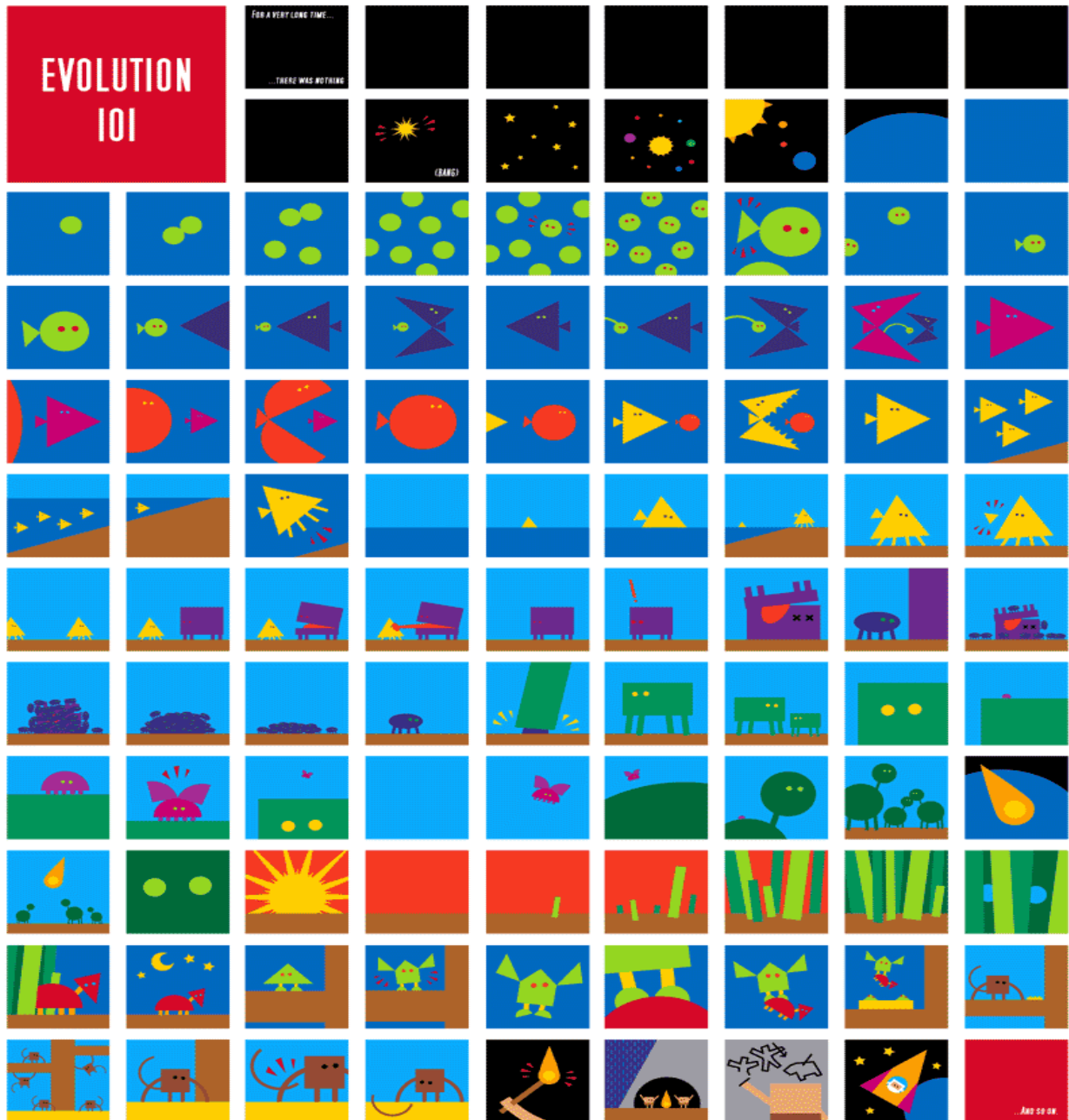


Evolution and Religion

In biology, evolution is the process of change in the inherited traits of a population of organisms from one generation to the next. In species that reproduce sexually, new combinations of genes are produced by genetic recombination, which can increase the variation in traits between organisms. Evolution occurs when these heritable differences become more common or rare in a population. Source [Wikipedia](http://en.wikipedia.org)



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BIANCA, Let's get cracking, KNOWLEDGE about to follow!!!

Written by [OS GIKEN](#)

Wednesday, 28 May 2008

I just read [Bianca's blog](#), honestly I thought she meant she challenged me in a comment, not an entire blog. Like Bianca, and so many other MyDLers, I love, love, love to argue. So let's put the record straight as an arrow, this is only our different opinions, views, beliefs etc. So anyone reading this please do not take offense!

Episode 1: Knowledge of the world:

Bianca, you wasted about 5 minutes explaining grade7 Geography about tectonic plates, although I loved the walk back to memory lane, it was not at all in vain. I understand what you are saying, really, but why do I understand my view and your view at the same time? Hhmm... Understanding the world is the first step we should take here, you and I. We understand how the world works, too hot, air vaporizes and "mother nature" decides there will be some rain. Don't get me wrong, GOD created a wonderful planet that knows how to regurgitate *love that word* itself. So the world is filled with tectonic plates we know that, and the plates are unstable, we know that.

Episode 2: Knowledge above that of your own:

Bianca, and all who do not agree with me, we must now look for knowledge beyond what we know, as I explained earlier, we all understand how the earth works, but why does it work like it works, so perfectly, so calculated, so overwhelmingly *big words, people, big words* The earth is wonderful, you and I know it, did something this wonderful just "evolve" as many scientists tell you, even though they knowingly tell you they are estimating and most scientific theories are only that, theories! So before we get to a joint decision, you must look past what scientist are telling you! You have to look at the bigger picture!

Episode 3: Accepting the things we don't know, can't see, and can't understand:

We all live our lives as civilized people, like I normally tell people; you live a life in the realms of the law, the law that was derived from the laws of GOD! Leave religion out of the question, religion sucks any way! We live, how did we get here? How did the world get here? How did the world evolve? Are you really going to believe another scientist? Well here is one of the greatest conspiracy theories. People wanted to know how the world started, how they evolved apparently, so the one who comes up with a theory is the man. Take a look at the dunce, Darwin. His theory of evolution, then take a look at the BIG BANG theory! Are you really going to tell me you are accepting sheep status

and accepting what they say, or speculate? Look beyond the obvious trash talking!

Final episode: Make up your mind, but trust in your belief:

Did you notice I said look beyond the obvious, and not "look to GOD"? So now you can see that I understand the world we live in, I understand the earthquakes, and I also do not agree with Darwin! So you did not see any attacks or "judgments" from my part. But what I want you to do is think deeper, look further, trust your instincts, not what someone else told you, not a preacher, not me, not Darwin, because inevitably you must believe in something, so I await your response, and please in your response, tell me your beliefs, because no one can tell me they do not believe, you believe in something!

The OS is outie and awaiting the heavens to open over Cape Town!

Manufiction

Written by [Aratus](#)

Wednesday, 16 April 2008

A reply to Dissol's post "Manufactroversy"

What are the raw materials used in a Manufactroversy? Dissol seem to be suggesting that they are simply science's justified inability to be 100% sure. Am I right?

Granted, no other raw material has been presented (besides potatoes, beet and garlic) in the AIDS manufactroversy.

But there is enough raw material for a real Global Warming controversy, let alone an evolutionary one.

Who carries the burden of proof here? Surely it is science. They are scientific theories after all.

If a religion holds the burden of proof for their theory then science should for theirs. Or not?

Dissol's post seems to suggest that he thinks there is no such thing as a controversy? But I know that is not the case. What then would constitute a controversy?

When a conspiracy is still a conspiracy theory does it not have the potential of become a true conspiracy? Yes, by the same process, that of uncovering the facts. Now if all we are going to read are the journals holding the same view, and refusing to publish the other, then we will never see nor acknowledge any view but the party line.

Maybe we need a new word because progressive semantics seems to be the order of the day:

Manufiction : it would include the sweeping global action taken at the yet unproven theory of global warming and our dear presidents statement "there is no crisis in Zimbabwe". Of course those reliant on the theory would prefer to call it a **Manufact**.

Quoting Dissol

"People and different interest groups take advantage of the fact that Science will and can never draw a line in the sand and say this is 100% accurate and true, about any issue."

The scientific process also takes advantage of this fact. I fail to see what is wrong with taking advantage with this fact.

What gets to me is the trail blazing 'go ahead' trumpet call of politics and the media carrying the scientists on their shoulders regardless of whether or not they want to be there.

It reminds me of a South American coup. Viva el Presidente!

I'd like to draw attention to the very first word in the acronym IPCC.
Now please tell me why it is that I should trust this body.

Evolution and Purpose pt. 1 : Introduction

Written by [RPeter](#)

Monday, 17 March 2008

I have a habit of writing LONG posts, so I am rather going to shorten my posts and break them up into a series.

I've also not been here for a long time - it's been so busy!

Anyway, I'm going to attempt to build a viable argument for proving two things about atheistic evolution. In my attempt to do so, I am NOT judging anyone or their beliefs. I am merely critiquing the belief itself, which is perfectly good thing to do and anyone is welcome to critique my beliefs (which they do anyway.)

The reason WHY I think we ought to critique ideas is this :

Bad ideas lead to bad philosophy. Bad philosophy leads to people living in a less-than-full way (we all desire to get the best we can from life. There's nothing wrong with that.) Religion and philosophy have attempted to answer the questions of life so that we can live more freer lives; per se. Some my attempt to do this through rigorous discipline (buddhism) or forced submission (Islam.) Do I judge these people? No, I'm judging the idea. It seems to me that neither of these truly do bring real freedom.

Now, I don't know about anyone else, but whichever philosophy or religion that prevents us living in REAL freedom should be scrapped. Secondly, whichever religion or philosophy that does not build a better FUTURE is certainly not worth our time either.

These are some of the things which should be discussed : what is true freedom? And what philosophy truly builds a better future? Marx might have asked some similar questions, but his conclusions have shown to be wrong in practice.

So, this is a broad topic. I'm not going to address Marxism or Buddhism in these posts. What I'm going to address is "evolution from an atheist perspective." Why? Because I have a sense that atheistic evolution can be very detrimental, in a negative way, to the well-being of a person, and the well-being of the future of the human race. This is what I will discuss.

In looking at this, I will look at evolution itself and attempt to show why I think that the atheist evolutionist should, in fact, realise that his very beliefs may point to God without him even realising it. Basically, I'm going to show what evolution claims also points to a god, and that this can, in fact, not be avoided. This may be a tall order. But, I'm going to attempt it anyway and probably get

stones thrown at me in the process. Oh well!

To give you a clue, my argument will start with Natural Selection. Here is a quote from a biological website on this topic:

"Natural selection is the process by which species adapt to their environment. Natural selection leads to evolutionary change when individuals with certain characteristics have a greater survival or reproductive rate than other individuals in a population and pass on these inheritable genetic characteristics to their offspring. Simply put, natural selection is a consistent difference in survival and reproduction between different genotypes, or even different genes, in what we could call reproductive success. [A genotype is a group of organisms sharing a specific genetic makeup.]"

See here : <http://www.actionbioscience.org/evolution/futuyma.html>

There are a number of words here that don't really fit in with the idea of 'random' that is also proposed through evolution. The words are 'process' , 'leads', 'change' and the very name of the process itself - 'evolution.' Why? These are all forward moving concepts.

That gives you a clue. Comments are welcome. Part two will come during this week (I'm going to be disciplined!)

Ethics

Written by [Aratus](#)

Wednesday, 05 March 2008

An answer to Wild One's post "A topic worth debating". A title which I heartily agree with.

I think what you are describing is a little less rubber-meets-the-road implications of ethics, and a little more origins of ethics.

Perhaps you are really asking, given that there are ethics, where on earth did they come from?

There are many reasons (none of them religious) as to why I cannot honestly accept that ethics evolved somehow with reason (I actually don't see how anyone can honestly accept that view).

GK Chesterton, in "Orthodoxy" presents the obvious objections to the 'evolution of ethics' better than I could:

"The one real objection to the Christian religion is simply that it is one religion. The world is a big place, full of very different kinds of people. Christianity (it may reasonably be said) is one thing confined to one kind of people; it began in Palestine, it has practically stopped with Europe.

I was duly impressed with this argument in my youth, and I was much drawn towards the doctrine often preached in Ethical Societies—I mean the doctrine that there is one great unconscious church of all humanity rounded on the omnipresence of the human conscience. Creeds, it was said, divided men; but at least morals united them.

The soul might seek the strangest and most remote lands and ages and still find essential ethical common sense. It might find Confucius under Eastern trees, and he would be writing "Thou shalt not steal." It might decipher the darkest hieroglyphic on the most primeval desert, and the meaning when deciphered would be "Little boys should tell the truth." I believed this doctrine of the brotherhood of all men in the possession of a moral sense, and I believe it still—with other things. And I was thoroughly annoyed with Christianity for suggesting (as I supposed) that whole ages and empires of men had utterly escaped this light of justice and reason.

But then I found an astonishing thing. I found that the very people who said that mankind was one church from Plato to Emerson were the very people who said that morality had changed altogether, and that what was right in one age was wrong in another. If I asked, say, for an altar, I was told that we needed none, for men our brothers gave us clear oracles and one creed in their universal customs and ideals. But if I mildly pointed out that one of men's universal customs was to have an altar, then my agnostic teachers turned clean round and told me that men had always been in darkness and the superstitions of savages. I found it was their daily taunt against Christianity that it was the light of one people and had left all others to die in the dark. But

I also found that it was their special boast for themselves that science and progress were the discovery of one people, and that all other peoples had died in the dark. Their chief insult to Christianity was actually their chief compliment to themselves, and there seemed to be a strange unfairness about all their relative insistence on the two things. When considering some pagan or agnostic, we were to remember that all men had one religion; when considering some mystic or spiritualist, we were only to consider what absurd religions some men had.

We could trust the ethics of Epictetus, because ethics had never changed. We must not trust the ethics of Bossuet, because ethics had changed. They changed in two hundred years, but not in two thousand."

One might not think that human ethics come from the Christian God... one might not think that they come from any god... one might even deny that human ethics are 'pre-programmed' (that would, I admit, imply a programmer). But one is left to explain where they do come from. Because, as you say, it is very difficult to insist that others obey a common ethic without any authority to insist. And if there is no common ethic, why then should we obey?

The Limitations of Science taken a bit further

Written by [Aratus](#)

Wednesday, 27 February 2008

Dissol accuses me of being deliberately misleading, I am misleading no-one, but I am being very very deliberate, and I am convinced that I have the ground. And I also don't think he is being very true to your scientific view. Here's why:

L. Harrison Matthews in his introduction to the 1971 edition of Darwin's Origin of the Species:

"The fact of evolution is the backbone of biology, and biology is thus in the peculiar position of being a science founded on an unproved theory – is it then a science or a faith? Belief in the theory of evolution is thus exactly parallel to belief in special creation – both are concepts which believers know to be true but neither, up to the present, has been capable to prove."

Welcome evolutionists, to the same boat. You claim that faith in God has been personally falsified by your experience. I claim that evolution has already been falsified by observation. Burden of proof sits where?

American Journal of Physical Anthropology:

"In any confrontation, you should be prepared to show that evolution is scientific, not that it is correct...One need not discuss fossils, intermediate forms, or probabilities or mutation. These are incidental. The question is, what is science, and what is religion? Therefore, if you must confront the creationist, we suggest you discuss the nature of science, the kind of knowledge it can provide and the kind it cannot provide."

Again, some scientists are like the new kid on the block who pick up the ball claiming it's science's ball saying, "you big boys can't play with my ball anymore."

This seems to be Dissol's tactic again and again. I would like to be shown (not by some blind legal system) why this evolution is science and ID is not. I do not buy it.

Ralph O. Mancaster in Dismantling Evolution.

"Molecular biologist Harold Morowitz calculated that, if every chemical bond were broken in the simplest living cell. The odds of it reassembling under ideal conditions would be $10^{-100,000,000,000}$ "

John Hogan stated in Scientific American

"Some scientists have argued that, given enough time, even apparently miraculous events become possible – such as the emergence of a single-cell organism from random couplings of chemicals. Sir Frederick Hoyle, the British astronomer, has said such an occurrence is about as likely as the assemblage of a 747 by a tornado whirling through a junkyard. Most researchers agree with Hoyle on this point.""

Ralph O. Mancaster again in Dismantling Evolution:

"These are calculations which give the probability of the random origin of the very first organism.

Chirality:- $1/10$ to the power of 33113

Life-specific amino acids being in the right place:- $1/10$ to the power of 6021

Correct specific amino acids being in the right place:- $1/10$ to the power of 13010

Correct material being in the right place for each gene:- $1/10$ to the power of 60155

Correct sequencing of genes:- $1/10$ to the power of 528

Total odds for the naturalistic origin Of the most simple conceivable bacterium:- $1/10$ to the power of 112827

This is the equivalent of winning 16119 lotteries in a row with the purchase of one ticket for each."

I still don't understand why we should be so willing to let an American legal system dictate to science what science is and what it is not. It is the same system which gives and maintains speeding laws. It seems to me that Dissol accepts what is convenient to him and discards what is not.

Is that what Dissol means by his evolutionary ethic? He just does whatever happens to feel right? I can't live like that.

Quoting **Dissol**:

"Yes, science never claims to have the absolute truth on anything. That is clearly demonstrated in the Scientific methodology. But science offers explanations that fit the facts, can make verifiable predictions and are possible to be falsified. ID/Creationism clearly cannot do any of that!"

Of course it can. ID/Creationism could easily be falsified if there were observations to falsify it, Dissol himself claims that faith in God has been personally falsified by his experience.

Evolution is already falsified, why it is still accepted and taught is my question. I say let it be taught (despite it's falsification) alongside 1 other scientifically plausible explanation (not alongside every god that every man has believed in).

Dissol again:

"ID/Creationism is a religious belief, and as such it should be taught, alongside other belief systems in the religious studies classroom. If say Dawkins scientific comments were being taught in the religious classroom as religion then I would be greatly offended."

I maintain that is already happening and yet he remains un-offended and I am offended by that hypocrisy.

Naked behind the white coat

Written by [Aratus](#)

Friday, 22 February 2008

(I have corrected the text in this opening paragraph because of Dissol's comment. He is right, he does acknowledge another system of knowledge, he just does not give it an equal footing to science. I most certainly do)

It's amazing to me how those, like Dissol, who do not acknowledge that the relational system of knowing stands equal to the scientific method, will go to great lengths to explain the intricate rules of word usage in the scientific method, yet the second anyone suggests that similar intricate rules apply to the interpretation of ancient scripture their response is "that is so typical of Christians to pick and choose the scriptures they read".

Now, having said that, I want very much to respond to Dissol's very lengthy post on Science and facts in which he excuses academia for pulling the wool over the eyes of the general public by interchanging the words 'fact' and 'theory', and suggests that they be allowed to continue to do so.

Now, in case you did not know, I don't think this is a very wise proposal, I think that behind the white coat science is found wanting as a temple of knowledge, a little naked (though a wonderfully useful resource none the less). Let me tell you why I think this:

There are two forms of reasoning: deductive and inductive.

In **Deductive** reasoning we deal with theories based on general observation. Gravity is a good example of deductive reasoning: an apple will fall to the ground if released. This conclusion is deduced.

I'm not wild about the use of the word 'fact' even for deductions, but I can live with that kind of English, so I do say that it is a 'fact' that apples are influenced, and will continue to be influenced, by the earth's gravitational pull (whatever that is).

This has always been the case, I have never had a problem with conclusions deduced by the effect of gravity.

In **Inductive** reasoning we deal with theories based only on instances of observation.

Both Theology and Species Diversity by Evolution are good examples of inductive reasoning.

There is never any absolute guarantee that Apples will continue to be influenced by gravity or that there is a God or that species diversity evolved from much simpler life forms. But the last two are a very very long way away from being referred to in any context as 'fact', because they are induced.

Now this is what really steams me, **we are being asked to use 'fact' for a theory no matter how the theory was come by**, and when we are calling

that kind of theory a 'fact' we are on very thin ice, but when it comes at us from academia (who should know better) it's just plain deception, and it is extremely dangerous!

As globalisation becomes so much more of a reality it is so very easy for the masses to be incited into some dreadfully wrong action simply by giving a bad theory the status of a fact.

Inductive reasoning is always in danger because it is reliant on individual observation and criticism. At best a very small group's observation, interpretation and criticism, and it is in very real danger of basic human assumption.

The all too human condition of coming up with a theory and then looking for observations to match the theory. This is particularly true when reasons other than pure science are involved in coming up with the theory. Whenever salaries, grants and possible fame are dependent on theories they are much more likely to be induced than deduced, because, apart from being very bright, scientists are also very human.

When we look behind the white coat and the qualifications, we find that science is full of human beings as naked and fallible as the rest of us.

I think we should call things by their proper name before it's too late.

Now the existence of God is a fact by my observation. I might tell you that it would be impossible for you to convince me otherwise, I have personally seen way, way too much (it is probably also impossible for me to convince you that He does exist, for I cannot make my observations yours). The great difference between the two is that God is a person and the species evolution is not. And yes species evolution can coexist as a theory with my personal observations. If only I had some evidence of it... but wait a minute, it is induced I do not have to believe it just because someone else told me he saw it but cannot show it to me... Just as you don't have to believe that my God exists.

I am here to wake you up to that truth. Don't allow yourself be bullied by science any more than you allow yourself to be bullied by religion; and accept the fact that there are ways, other than someone else's science or someone else's religion or someone else's relationship, of knowing stuff!

Scientific facts

Written by [Dissol](#)

Friday, 22 February 2008

Sigh. I am going to try not to be sucked into any religious debates. I really don't see the level of discussion, on those topics, as being interesting or useful to anyone here. People have their own belief systems and nothing written on MyDL will ever change that (in fact I would conjecture that recent discussions have only polarised viewpoints, and made people even more close minded in their (non) belief systems).

So I am going to stick to cool Science here! My motivation is not to convert anyone's religious belief system, or to ridicule any belief system; I know far too many scientists of different religions, that I know that the two can live happily together in the same brain. If you are like me (and I know I am!), then Science is a wonderfully exciting subject that is able to inform us about the natural world about us.

But there does seem to be a huge amount of confusion regarding scientific facts and theories and the waters are muddied still further by some people making false statements and allegations. I obviously cannot say if this is being done on purpose or through ignorance, but either way some clarity is needed.

I know that science is not everyone's cup of tea, and I actually think that part of the reason is because of the dry way that it is often taught. With hindsight, I am able to recognise how fortunate I was to have some really, really good science & maths teachers during my education. Science can be really exciting, cool, beautiful, helpful, inclusive, and global. I am not saying that it has all the answers to all the questions, or that it needs to replace any other style of thinking, or exploration. Let's stop the comparisons and just look at science.

I wonder if anyone would pull me up if I said Gravity was a fact?

Probably not?

What about if I say Electricity is a fact?

Maybe?

Evolution is a fact?

Oops I just overstepped the mark there!

Right. Scientifically they are all FACT...and they are all THEORIES.

How can that be?

In vernacular there is a hierarchy of these terms - perhaps Theory --> Hypothesis --> Educated Guess --> Guess.

And in the same way in vernacular, fact means absolute certainty.

Well, this is science and not vernacular. And in science there is no such thing as absolute certainty. There cannot ever be. No scientist can ever claim perpetual truth. So the argument to this, may be that it is of no use - if we cannot prove anything with 100% certainty then it is of no use to mankind? No; this is not correct, and is easily refuted. Sure there can be an epistemological argument against evolution, & Science in general, that because something cannot be proven to 100% it cannot be taken as fact, but in the real world, we all accept facts that are so highly probable it would be silly not to accept them. Apples may start to drift upwards tomorrow, and no one can say conclusively that they will not. But then this can be taken to extremes, and how would we know we really exist, and I may be just a figment of your imagination stuck in your brain...(scary place in here...why all the echoes??)

Apples have always fallen down on Earth. Newton explained that with gravity. But then Einstein came along and found some holes in Newton's work. Apples did not suspend themselves in mid air until he completed his work. Gravity was still there. Gravity was still a fact.

Ah! yes, I can hear the retorts at the back of the classroom already. But I can see apples fall with my own eyes. I cannot see evolution. Correct! So would you also apply the same argument to the shape of the planet that we are on. If we go outside, we see land stretching in a straight line to every horizon...it is flat (well apart from that mountain over there)...so...is the earth flat? Or are you happy with the fact that it is round (even if you cannot see it, and the evidence you see is contrary to that?). By the way, if you do think the earth is flat, then maybe the rest of this is a little beyond you at the moment... Lets watch the sun...NO! DON'T LOOK AT IT (that is 'obviously' only to cure certain types of blindness!!) . It seems to move across our sky...(and then a blanket is thrown over at night and it tracks back behind it...we can tell by the little holes that we call stars). Or...perhaps you are happy to accept the fact that the earth is round, and spinning? You cannot see this (unless you have obscene amounts of money to become a space tourist), but you also accept this as fact. It is worth remembering that these facts were also strongly denied when they were first conjectured...

So, scientifically, in the same way that gravity is fact, and electricity is fact, then evolution is fact. Science is not saying (and can never say) that we know all there is to know about gravity, electricity, or evolution. There are still holes in our knowledge of all of these (and this should not concern us; it should excite us!). The holes do not make any of these untrustworthy or irrelevant in our lives. Just think...without electricity we would not have Eskom...oh wait...maybe that is not a good one...!!

Let me finish by quoting others (who are much better than I, at explaining this):

Let me try to make crystal clear what is established beyond reasonable doubt, and what needs further study, about evolution. Evolution as a process that has always gone on in the history of the earth can be doubted only by those who

are ignorant of the evidence or are resistant to evidence, owing to emotional blocks or to plain bigotry. By contrast, the mechanisms that bring evolution about certainly need study and clarification. There are no alternatives to evolution as history that can withstand critical examination. Yet we are constantly learning new and important facts about evolutionary mechanisms. Theodosius Dobzhansky "[Nothing in Biology Makes Sense Except in the Light of Evolution](#)", American Biology Teacher vol. 35 (March 1973) reprinted in Evolution versus Creationism, J. Peter Zetterberg ed., ORYX Press, Phoenix AZ 1983

It is time for students of the evolutionary process, especially those who have been misquoted and used by the creationists, to state clearly that evolution is a **fact**, not theory, and that what is at issue within biology are questions of details of the process and the relative importance of different mechanisms of evolution. It is a **fact** that the earth with liquid water, is more than 3.6 billion years old. It is a **fact** that cellular life has been around for at least half of that period and that organized multicellular life is at least 800 million years old. It is a **fact** that major life forms now on earth were not at all represented in the past. There were no birds or mammals 250 million years ago. It is a **fact** that major life forms of the past are no longer living. There used to be dinosaurs and Pithecanthropus, and there are none now. It is a **fact** that all living forms come from previous living forms. Therefore, all present forms of life arose from ancestral forms that were different. Birds arose from nonbirds and humans from nonhumans. No person who pretends to any understanding of the natural world can deny these facts any more than she or he can deny that the earth is round, rotates on its axis, and revolves around the sun.

R. C. Lewontin "Evolution/Creation Debate: A Time for Truth" Bioscience 31, 559 (1981) reprinted in Evolution versus Creationism, op cit.

The honest scientist, like the philosopher, will tell you that nothing whatever can be or has been proved with fully 100% certainty, not even that you or I exist, nor anyone except himself, since he might be dreaming the whole thing. Thus there is no sharp line between speculation, hypothesis, theory, principle, and fact, but only a difference along a sliding scale, in the degree of probability of the idea. When we say a thing is a fact, then, we only mean that its probability is an extremely high one: so high that we are not bothered by doubt about it and are ready to act accordingly. Now in this use of the term fact, the only proper one, evolution is a fact. For the evidence in favor of it is as voluminous, diverse, and convincing as in the case of any other well established fact of science concerning the existence of things that cannot be directly seen, such as atoms, neutrons, or solar gravitation

So enormous, ramifying, and consistent has the evidence for evolution become that if anyone could now disprove it, I should have my conception of the orderliness of the universe so shaken as to lead me to doubt even my own existence. If you like, then, I will grant you that in an absolute sense evolution is not a fact, or rather, that it is no more a fact than that you are hearing or reading these words.

H. J. Muller, "One Hundred Years Without Darwin Are Enough" *School Science and Mathematics* 59, 304-305. (1959) reprinted in *Evolution versus Creationism* op cit.

The Dissolution of a weak argument

Written by [Aratus](#)

Tuesday, 19 February 2008

Logic is a marvelous tool when it is actually used... I have no option but to call Dissol on his lack of logic. He says in a comment on Wolf's post, God or no God...

"...evolution is fact, and I wish more people would realise this. Yes, as with any scientific hypothesis, there are still holes."

It would be a dreadful day in some kind of hell when any Fact remained a Fact while still having 'holes'.

I would like to know from Dissol how it is that this "Fact "has holes? The statement offends my reason! Facts have no holes, and if they have holes that are not facts!

Evolution is not a fact, Global Warming is not a Fact, Overpopulation is not a fact and God is not a fact!

These are statements of reason... logic... they have nothing whatsoever to do with religion.

Daniel Webster (1782 - 1852) who gave us the Webster dictionary said this: "A strong conviction that something must be done is the parent of many bad measures."

That's what happens when we are sloppy with our language and our logic.

Let's get it right. Facts are facts and hypotheses are not!

God or no God....what's your point?

Written by [Wolfe](#)

Tuesday, 19 February 2008

You people have done it again....you forced me to join the religion debate, thanks for the inspiration ;-)okay, the truth isI'm bored....

All jokes aside, let me get to the point.

After reading through all your blogs I came to the realisation that sadly after so many posts, none of you have a point. Instead you are all trying to convince each other of the existence or lack of God. At least, that's my uneducated hurried impression.

Atheism, my understanding is that the true meaning is a person that does not believe in anything regarding a higher power, God, Satan or whatever figure living in the pages of scripture. No offence to atheists, but considering your lack of belief, you don't really have much to say other than the fact that you do not believe. Of course, I understand that being hammered by Christians for your lack of belief can be very frustrating and prompt a response, but I will get to that later.

So before I get to my point, let's just look at some facts.

Evolution is a fact. I am not referring to Darwin, but instead the actual word evolution. Science has proved evolution, even in modern day it can be seen. If you talk about creation of man, it doesn't matter how we were created. We either came from an ape-like creature or miraculously suddenly appeared naked in the middle of a forest. If you are Christian, it is only important that you believe God is responsible for creation, regardless of his methods.

Here is the thing that really upset me about Christians and this is also my point.

God gave us free will, he gave us the right to choose. As a Christian your only duty is to spread the word of God. In other words, tell people about him. God made provision for the rest by giving people free will. This means that once they learn about God, it is their decision to believe or not. As Christians I get the impression you are judging people for having free will, even if by means of mere over-zealous justification as to why you believe in God.

God does not kill people or promote violence, but he did give us free will. As result God is not responsible for wars, we are.

Life is the only miracle out there. The way the human body works and the essence of nature. Now, that's a miracle, sadly taken for granted by so many.

Getting that promotion or getting your dream house is no different a gift from God than the fact that he provides you with life. Saying that God gave you the big house or dream job, is also saying that God took away the big job and house from homeless Joe on the corner.....although this may be true, this is not really a good example to use when trying to convince people of God. Instead of telling people what you think God did for you, just be grateful for what you have.

My point is, as a Christian, you have no right to judge others, that duty is part of God's job description. As a non-believer, you have no right to judge either, because you cannot judge what you do not believe exists...right?

Here is the irony of it all, why is it that people who do not believe in God usually know more about God than those who do believe in Him? This is a rhetorical question...

In closing I want to remind you all of something. If the existence of God could be proved or disproved, Christianity would cease to exist. Why? Because the entire principle and foundation of Christianity is based on faith and with fact, there is no room for faith.

Remember, you can only remain in a healthy debate when you are capable of arguing both points, the minute you lose sight of the opposing point of view, you have lost sight of your very own convictions.

.....all right people....LET ME HAVE IT!

eg“evil grin” for those that don't know...

PS: Yes, I believe I am Christian.....

Receive Like A Child

Written by [Shiny](#)

Tuesday, 19 February 2008

Luke 18:17 - Verily I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child shall in no wise enter therein. King James Bible.

Now let us break down this little verse that is causing so much debate. If we take a look at the word "Kingdom", this does not represent Heaven, If you go and replace all the word "Kingdom" with word Heaven, 80% of those verses would not make sense at all. It is thought to us that Kingdom = Heaven, which is totally wrong. The Kingdom of God is the glory of God, the ability to walk in the authority of God. The gifts of the spirit. So if you don't receive the Kingdom of God like a child, there might still be a chance of you going to Heaven.

If we look at "receive the kingdom of God as a little child". This does not in any way mean you must think or become a child. If you look like at a child and how they receive gifts, they receive it unconditionally, they are so happy that they can get a gift. Jesus speaks here about "Little Child" and little is little, not the older children that these days are such ungrateful spoilt brats. A little child's eye light up when they receive a gift, nothing else exist in this world but that gift, it is the best gift ever to them. This is how God wants us to receive His Kingdom. Yes you are a 25 year old, and yes God does not want you to start thinking like a child, otherwise He would not have allowed your brain to develop in to such a complex thing. He wants you to receive with out reason, these day, we as humans receive things with conditions, we want to know what the catch is, the fine print, with God there is no fine print, it is, like it is.

To reason, one must do it wisely and with insight, you can have wisdom about something, but will never have the insight of that particular thing, because you don't live close to it. I can have wisdom about evolution, but not the insight about it, because it's not part of my daily life. Reason = Wisdom + insight. If you want to reason about the bible, you must have the wisdom and the insight about it, to comment fairly on it. If you don't have it, it is just a conversation with no value...

Greetings,

Shiny...

A Muslim in a Catholic School

Written by [aksn1p3r](#)

Monday, 18 February 2008

You might not know that I attended a Catholic school in my last few years of high-school.

At first, everything was un-Islamic, it felt as if Jesus was watching my every move. Being the only Indian was also a bit new to me because I transferred from an all-Indian school. The blazer colour was the worst in the world, plum.

The principal thought my beard was necessary but I shaved it off just to abide school rules. The teachers never cared what I did when it came to religious activities, because they knew I was Muslim and it seemed that they did not want any conflict of religion from their part.

Mass was something extraordinarily different and almost unacceptable at first, eventually it bore me to sit alone in an empty school and it also gave me an advantage to the entire class as I could do my Thursday homework on a Friday morning. I attended and eventually mass became boring and I yawned alot. Holy water used to 'burn' my hands, eventually it was just a divine way of splashing friends' faces with water. Kneeling, well I did my own little prayer when all was silent.

If a student had broken a rule, they would be punished by being left alone to reflect on their wrongful deed. That was a bit funny because first-time offenders soon learnt the secret of apology more quickly, instead of not doing it altogether.

I didn't adopt a Catholic lifestyle but learnt alot about it... as a scholar. I shared stories, with my class, of what may come to those Muslims who commit various sins etc. They were enthralled by the extremity of the wrath that sinners would endure and at the rewards that followers might receive. That led to questions and discussions about our differences. They were more intrigued at my religion than me of theirs.

I noticed that scriptures were being followed and it was more about being a good person by example of the saints in the Bible. Father John would give a story that lightened our day with a joke or event that was to be remembered as an example of the kindness that good Christians should reflect. Nothing was biased, it was merely a duty of being a good person.

Ok, that was not too complicated as the other belief systems and its all done in plain ol english, sometimes Latin.

I accept that some religions out there are different and maybe my God is your God too. And evolution to me is only thought-provoking and unrelated to my

beliefs. And that adaptation is evident in most organisms on this planet.

That's about as easily as I can see things for now...until Pesach, when I might spy on girls with angel-wings again.

So here's a few questions I hope wont offend anyone because I'd like to know the answers.

Is it true that, in some religions, there is no hell and in some there are back-door passes to heaven for sinners?

If you're atheist what sort of mindset do you have... is it impartial to good and evil or do you aim to become an ideal citizen without having faith in anything but yourself?

Do satanists go to heaven if they haven't fulfilled their satanic duties or do they go to hell when they have?

If a Quran is to be touched only by our 'clean' hands and to be kept above our waists at any given time, is it ok to contain it in a cellphone or device, that is kept in our pockets below our waistline and that is constantly touched by 'unclean' hands?

I may not be super-religious and I don't know everything about Islam but it is as basic as fulfilling the 5 pillars or statutes that govern our temporary stay in this world, along with a good intent throughout.

Jumping on the Religion Bandwagon

Written by [MissPriss](#)

Monday, 18 February 2008

We've all heard both sides of the argument. If you believe in Creationism, you're a bible-punching fanatic who believes in something that can't be proven. If you believe in Evolution, you're a free-thinking radical with no moral compass to guide you. Religion and Science have been on opposite sides of this debate for centuries, with neither coming to any resolution.

Me? I'm a free-thinking radical who believes in something that can't be proven. (I was going to write that I'm a bible-punching fanatic with no moral compass... but the contradiction was just too much, too soon). Yup. I support both sides of the argument – within reason of course. I have never understood why science and religion can't walk hand in hand. To get a better grasp of where I'm coming from with this rather random blog, let's start with the basics.

First off, organized religion is a man-made invention. Each and every religious sect was started by a man or group of men claiming to be prophets. Maybe they were, maybe they weren't. Maybe they did get messages from a Higher Power. Maybe they didn't. The point is, every religion was founded by mortal men and mortal men are prone to greed, corruption, lying etc. Look at the fundamental teachings of organized religion, which promote living good, moral lives. Do you really think that a God that promotes such teachings would then be for murder, violence and manipulation in order to stamp out another religion? I don't. I can't see how someone who teaches tolerance would be so intolerant. As long as we, as a people, try to live our lives in a such a way that we are teaching ourselves tolerance, patience, understanding, compassion, honesty and integrity, I don't think a God, any God would care what we called Him, or how we chose to acknowledge His greatness.

Secondly - yes, I do believe in a Higher Power. Some call Him Allah, some call Him Jehovah, some call Him God. He's the same person, no matter what your background is, no matter where you come from. I follow those who think that our souls are sent to earth to learn the fundamental lessons of life – how to be tolerant, how to be patient, how to be compassionate, how to be honest, how to have integrity – basically how to have respect for one another and how to show it in every little thing we do. The basic, most fundamental teaching of any of the major organized religions is that we should treat others as we ourselves would be treated.

Thirdly – I believe that Science has its place in the grand scheme of things. On the one hand, if I look at this world around us, someone had to have created the smallest particles of our beings. Such complicated interconnectivity and the manner in which everything fits together is too big to be mere coincidence. However, Evolution has its place. Let's use a basic example. Imagine you're writing a blog post. You jot down your ideas, what you want to say, and then you edit. You check your spelling, your grammar, you ensure that what you're

saying makes sense, that you haven't left anything out. You created the piece of writing, and yet, you changed it, allowed it to evolve into something presentable. It's a very basic example, but I believe that the Creator had to make changes, had to allow us to evolve to best suit the environment that we found ourselves in. Science and its theories allow us to better understand what was created, how it was created, how it fits together. Science is an explanation of that which our religious texts are unable to sufficiently explain.

People seem to forget three very simple things.

Firstly, we are still evolving. Look at our capacity to grasp new knowledge and apply it to the world around us. Two millennia ago, we as a people didn't have the mental capacity to be able to do so. Our brains had to evolve, had to find new ways to take in new knowledge.

Secondly, because of the limited capacity to understand and explore the world around us, those who lived two millennia ago did the best they could with what little they had. They were a simple people, who had to try and explain complicated concepts in a simple manner.

The third simple thing is that our religious texts have had to be translated and in translation, much of what was actually said is misinterpreted. Try explaining the Afrikaans word 'mos' to an Englishman....

But this is just my tuppence worth.

Wading into the religion "battle"

Written by [Doorboot](#)

Monday, 18 February 2008

Believers are just as much human as anyone else, with all the rubbish that goes with it. I do not claim to be any better than anyone else nor for that matter do I think I am justified to condemn and judge just because God found me. No rather I am compelled to accept people and to love them despite my own gripes with them. Why? Because Christ did it.

Unfortunately organised religion has stuffed it up. The charismatics generally want to make money and feel good and the orthodox generally want to do stuff because their parents did it. I am ocasionaly resentful of guys like Benny Hinn, Ray McCauley and the Pope, because they sometimes forget that Jesus died on a cross for everyone and not a select few. For these guys it is sometimes about money, ego or tradition. But and this is a big but, I do not judge these people or wish them ill fortune, no that is not my perogative.

By the way I do not have a problem with evolution (I am sceptic but not dismissive). And if science can prove that nothing exploded and that is how everything was created well who is to say that it was not Gods plan? As to the argument that religion = war well that is pure rubbish. Turkey had a civil uprising where people died because of hats. You do not see people condemn and hate hats because of a war.

God did find me; I did not go and look for him. I experienced the presence of God at an informal church meeting that I attended because I was courting my wife to be. Talk about skew motives. Before that I came to the lonely conclusion that God does not exist, after that I cannot deny the obvious.

Battersea Rise

Written by [Aratus](#)

Monday, 18 February 2008

I'm hoping that this post may shed some light on the religious debate which 'evolved' from the relevance of evolution debate. Just a quick observation to start off. Did anyone else notice how quickly a discussion on the merits of evolution comes round to a discussion about God? and how quickly a discussion about God comes round to personal experience and ancient writings? And that's where we get stuck... because the science mind wants external, testable proof. But, what is wrongly called the 'religious' mind has personal experience.

Anyway.

2007 was the 200th anniversary of the abolition of the slave trade in England. But it was not until 1833 that slavery itself was abolished in England and it's colonies.

The lot of the poor did not change much, but where the lot of the poor did change most was closest to the source of the change... ie; in England.

You may think England has always been a first world nation; I tell you 200 years ago it was poor, disease ridden, fighting a losing war against the French and in utter moral decay. Poor children were grossly abused, the rich sat in absolute power and slavery was the basis of the economy. Up until that time European economies had grown pretty much evenly by acquiring colonies and slaves to work them and the trading with each other. But compared to what was about to happen the growth was very small. But that was all they knew.

Then along came, what I call, the waw of the 18th & 19th centuries:

The Wesleys following the Whitfields with Wilberforce in parliament..

George Whitfield (1714 - 1770) transformed England with his preaching. So much so that his era was called "The Great Awakening".

He was closely followed by John Wesley (1703 - 1791) who continued to preach social reform despite being shunned by established church institutions.

William Wilberforce was greatly influenced by Whitfield's preaching but more than that by his own convictions that God had called him to make a difference in England. As a member of parliament he aimed at two things: 1. To abolish slavery in England, and 2. To lift the national moral standard.

It was a tough battle, he fought debilitating disease and immense pressure. He was accused of trying to break England economically, even of treason (the Napoleonic wars were raging at the time).

Well it is a much longer story than this post can tell. Wilberforce in parliament. William Pitt (prime minister and friend), Henry Thornton and a number of other gifted and influential Christians got together to support and encourage

each other and to bring about progressive change (not mere development). They would meet at Thornton's house, called Battersea Rise in Clapam just outside of London. Many of them sold up property and moved to Clapam to be nearer the group.

The work attracted other Christians, disenfranchised in business and traditional religion because they believed in the person of the Holy Spirit. These men, known as the Quakers (because of the manifestation of God in them). Established towns of their own because they were not allowed to work in London. Men like the Lever Brothers, Mr Cadbury (who established the town of Bournville around a chocolate factory), Mr Barclay a banker, to name a few. They called a working force out of London offering a fair wage (known as the Quaker fair price), good living conditions, schools and clinics. And so these Christians began to turn the economy around. Opportunity was then, and has never been, the key to progress, in fact the less the available opportunities, the better the chances of finding opportunities where we did not expect them. I hope and pray that the real entrepreneurs in SA can rise out of the pathetic whining about 'equal opportunities'. No real entrepreneur looks for equal opportunities, a real entrepreneur makes opportunities.

At the same time Wilberforce, Pitt and Thornton were arranging a law change, what a miraculous economic/political tag team! The change, when it came catapulted England economically, so much so that, together with the Quakers, these men ushered in the industrial revolution and gave a strength to the Pound that is still around today.

England, the first to abolish slavery, released a workforce capital that no one knew existed the economy growth went through the roof. The strength of the economy even won the war against France.

Only in 1833, 3 days before Wilberforce's death, was the law passed abolishing slavery altogether.

Yet today, worldwide, we have more slaves than ever before. Some estimates are as many as a million!

Someone I know has gathered 8 Economic principles for nations wanting to progress. They are all biblical and all very well tested:

1. Give and preserve basic property rights.

The poor must be allowed to live on land they own.

America was known as the Wild West before this was a law.

2. The government must balance the budget and invest.

Spending half of the public works and maintenance budget is just not good enough!

3. Have a Central Banking System.

4. Allow Free Trade and free opportunity to trade, as much as possible.

5. Establish Freedom & Fairness in Labour.

Socialism must be educated out of the nation that wants to develop.

6. Use Natural Resources wisely

7. Prioritise Justice, disbanding the Scorpions is not a good idea.
8. Care for the poor.

It just goes to show the power of relational knowledge and personal community combined with the practicalities of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. So where is SA's Battersea Rise?

Next time you buy a Cadbury's chocolate, you might want to say a little prayer.

Religious debate

Written by [Liquid circle](#)

Monday, 18 February 2008

Due to some stupid movement of my mouse pad i have just lost a hell of a blog, damn, OS i'll try again.

You say that i must have been looking whilst i read through the religious books. Maybe i was maybe not but i had to find out what all the fuss was about. I needed to know why millions of people all trek to a building on Sundays, sometimes even twice. Whilst doing my research i found that i ended up with more questions that what i started off with and disregarded the information as i just could not find it in me to be true. Many non believers that struggle to understand why people belief what they do need physical evidence, like yourself. If i would scream that evolution was true, you would say bring me the proof and if you do we can reason, but before that.....

But what if there was a GOD and i am wrong, what will there be for me?? Most probably lighting braai fires for the rest of my existence for the people that did belief. But what if evolution's theory will be proven one day, what will you do? Do door to knock on, no nothing.

You also said that i mustn't put all Christians under Rhianna's umbrella and maybe i was wrong but i worked it on the law of averages as most Christians judge people of other religion or non believers. I am happy to hear that you are not one of them.

OS can you tell me why people hide behind their religion?? Why is it that in the old days black and coloured people could not go to a white church? This is the house of the lord, colour should not have been an issue. Why is it that Muslims hide behind their religion and believe that the Jihad is cool and yes they will go to heaven and yes they will have plenty of virgins for themselves. Please tell me why the Protestants and the Catholics are beating each other up each year in Ireland? Please tell me why there is always violence in the name of religion?? If there was a GOD he would have only one thing in mind, the prosperity of ALL people, believers or not as he is not the one to judge.

OS like you said as well we can blog about this fr hours and we will never agree, so maybe its best for us to agree to disagree on this matter. or maybe we should have a beer one time so that we can have a decent conversation.

OS be strong in what you belief, fight for your right to belief, as long as you know that you are clear in your mind that whatever you do is the right thing, and anyone disrespecting that is an arse hole.

Atheist, Cristian's and their beliefs, response to Shiny and OS

Written by [Liquid circle](#)

Monday, 18 February 2008

Once again the debate about revolution, Christianity and Evolution has come on this platform and as i have written about this before i will do so again as often we Atheists are mis understood. I wrote this piece in a previous blog called Atheists vs Satanists;

Atheists are people that do not belief in God, they have the right to do so and yes people of belief may want to convert them to their religion, fair enough. However Atheists are often referred to as devil worshipers or the Antichrist. There is however a big difference.

Atheists go around minding their own business and might even belief in other higher beings than God to guide them through live. They do not see the solution in Christianity or any other main stream religion. This does not make them bad people as so often suggested by people of belief. It amazes me that very seldom you hear atheists accusing Christians of being bad people, why is that? It is not only Christians that are successful in life, many other people are. I myself am a Atheist, this does not mean that i do not respect people of belief, i actually respect them more as to me it is incredible that their belief is as strong as they is based on a book written 1000's of years ago. This power is incredible. But too often Atheists are seen in a bad light by Christians, we are sometimes even placed in the same box as the people that practice Satanism.

Now people that practice Satanism are people that belief, unlike Atheists who do not belief. People that belief in Satan as their God have the right to practice this, just like anybody else that practices religion, not?? Regardless of what we think of their religion they still have a right. I agree however that certain rituals are unacceptable and are inhuman, but this is a legal matter and not a religious one. Atheists do not belief in God nor do they belief in the devil, so please don't confuse the two. According to Christians all other people that do not belief in God do not end up in Heaven, which is fine with me. People of other religions also belief they are the chosen ones to go to Heaven, so maybe there are different heavens for different religious people and maybe there is no Heaven at all.

Religion is the basis of many wars all around the world, some are so bad that they say they do it in the name of God, if that is the case it makes me wonder if they are not Satanists as surely a good God won't promote any kind of violence, or would they? If your God is a God of Love to my beliefs you have found your Heaven, but if your God promotes violence of any sorts one should maybe reconsider your options.....

Atheists are good people, let them be and please do not confuse them with worshipers of Satan

Atheists don't necessarily believe in evolution either, not saying that I don't but some don't. In responses and comments to Shiny and OS it shows that whatever one says to them they will hammer you because you do not believe what they believe. It is obvious that different people believe in different ways and if one wants to base your belief on your new job with a great salary and also find that acceptable, however don't judge people that don't believe that.

I agree 100% with OS that he needs to defend his religion, because if I believed in it I would have done the same thing that's normal. But put yourself in the shoes of people that are Catholics, Muslims, Atheist or even Satanists, would you be defenseless if some dude tells you that you are wrong and he is right, based on his belief?? What I am trying to say is that everyone in this world has the right to believe what they want is right without being judged for it. We all judge each other one way or another but I have never judged a Christian, an Atheist, a Catholic or whom ever.

Shiny asked if I wanted to be hit by lightning or something like, duh....no thank you. But you know what for me to believe that GOD is real I need more proof than what has been presented. I assume that people of belief in general would also need more proof of evolution before entertaining the theory. It's the same thing!!

Whatever religion you are, or if you believe in the stars it all doesn't make a difference as long as you feel that your heart is clear of wrong doing all will be fine.

Evolution... is it relevant?

Written by [RPeter](#)

Saturday, 16 February 2008

Well, here I am. Writing my first blog at MDL. What should I write about? Well... I don't know. I guess I can write about what I am probably going to write about (the most) at this blog.

Two things. Firstly, I will no doubt stick to my description for this blog - "engaging ideas and engaging thought." What does that mean, exactly? Well, on a more active level, it'll mean that I'll probably discuss things that are in the realm of philosophy, religion, relationship and ideology.

Secondly, I might delve into discussing some things with regards to Linux, as that is my latest Digital sort of passion. I've recently installed Ubuntu 7.10 on two of my PC's and I am loving it. It's really getting me into the idea of Linux.

Now, I must admit, this is the first time ever I've actually got excited about an Operating System. It's really wierd... I guess I'm joining the world of Geekdom! But don't expect me to know much just yet. So, I might not talk that much about it, but I will occasionally delve into discussing some Geeky stuff.

Now I know that philosophy and religion is discussed a lot around here, and maybe MDL doesn't need another blog to discuss it... or, maybe they do. These things are fundamental as a part of our existence as human beings, and it would be rather silly not to discuss them and debate around different viewpoints. Maybe another viewpoint around those issues that are RELEVANT (ie, NOT evolution) would be great. Maybe not. That's what I'll leave you to decide.

Not being a scientist, I don't dispute or acknowledge evolution. Too many Christians assume that evolution = no God (which it obviously doesn't) and too many atheists assume the same. Evolution doesn't disprove or prove God's existence, and so I don't really see it as relevant. However, when a person rejects the existence of God (one would have to discuss whether he REJECTS it, or didn't believe it in the first place... Freud believed that a person would not believe in God unless he had been taught to. That's probably a very interesting debate!) - ok, where was I? Oh yes, so if a person rejects the existence of God he no doubt has to still believe SOMETHING that acknowledges his existence and explains to him where he comes from.

But why is it so important that we know where we come from? Probably because this is how we can validate our existence... and understand our purpose.

"I think therefore I am." Descartes said this. I think he was wrong... or not entirely right. Although Descartes was a Christian, validating our existence through pure reason means that we also start creating our morals and ethics from pure reason. This is probably what the Atheist does - his ethics and morals are based on reason, and not on anything else. Is this the best way to create morals and ethics? And, if not, do we prove it is not the best way through reason alone? Isn't that really arguing in circles?

Not really. Because some things can be seen through pure reason... but not everything. This would require a lot of further discussion.

But let's say we do decide on our morals and ethics through reason alone... where does that lead? Well... it can very possibly lead to (1) relativism and (2) existentialism. Taking both of these to a greater social and national, and then global, level, what kind of world would we have? Not a bright one with art and beauty and virtue and conviction. We'd have a very dark world indeed!

So, that's why evolution isn't important. The philosophy involved is what's important. And those are the kinds of things I want to discuss. So, those that wish to challenge my beliefs as a Christian ought not to try and throw 'evolution' as evidence for proof of the non-existence of God. Evolution can't explain first cause anyway. And the existence of God is not all my belief is about anyway-- there's more to it than that. And those who are Christian should not feel that 'evolution' is the great enemy of Christianity. Evolution is neither here nor there. It's really a misnomer in my mind, as a challenge to Christianity, and I can be a Christian and believe evolution happens -- and I can be one and believe it doesn't. Changing me to believe it does should not influence my belief in God at all... I mean, why should it?

"Creation vs. Evolution" (part three)

Written by [Bloubulheks](#)

Thursday, 31 January 2008

I believe in both, "CREATION AND EVOLUTION". In order for me to attach credence to 'what I believe in', I needed to dissociate myself from 'blind faith' and 'religion'. Most of the time, this was the hardest part for me to do in order to keep an open mind. Somehow, I could understand why God said that the Bible were written so that even a child could understand it but at the same time, it is not, magic or a myth, it speaks of utmost intelligence. Since all the evidence, I ever needed could be found in "THE BIBLE", I have to mention that I it's not my intention, to take away from or to add anything to the 'Word of God'. Unfortunately, when I compare the few versions of translated Bibles in my possession, I had found that the true meaning of certain statements and facts must have gone lost through the ages and the translations was made to suite and meet the standards of the people, in a specific period of time. Before God, His Sons, Angels and Satan came to Earth, He might even have been responsible for, what we call the 'Big Bang'. While They were exploring our solar system, it is obvious that a Living God, who claims to be able to 'Create Life', had found that the planet Earth, could sustain live. "The Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters" The water that surrounded the earth at that time. I think that the confusion lies in the fact that God stated that one day in His life is equal to one thousand years for humankind. I believe that the first seven days described in Genesis was 7 God-days, in other words, 7,000 Earth-years. "In the beginning God created the heaven and earth.....and darkness was upon the face of the deep" 'Heaven' did not mean the whole universe but merely the close vicinity surrounding the earth, so that the light of the sun could lighten up the face of the earth, to sustain all forms of life. It never rained on earth, being surrounded by a water bubble and only mist coming up from the face of the earth, it created excellent conditions for 'Evolution' to take place. Yes, there were people, who evolved from apes, living in caves. Although God created only Adam and Eve, their son Cain, became a fugitive and were afraid of the other people who would slay him for killing Abel. There is much more to say about 'God's creations' and 'evolution', but this is it for me. Crucify me or read and examine the 'Bible' for yourself.

"Creation vs. Evolution" (part one)

Written by [Bloubulheks](#)

Monday, 28 January 2008

Dear Citizens, please keep in mind that this is not an attempt to change or influence anybody's opinion, beliefs or religion, what so ever. Thanks to all of you who have been reading and commenting on my "Evolution vs. Creation" blogs, merely stating the views of **other** people, which I have found on the internet. My own point of view will be at the closing down of this subject.

Likewise, I have googled "Creation vs. Evolution" (221,000 results) and as before, I am pointing out **other** people's views on Science and the Bible.

Statements Consistent With Paleontology

Dinosaurs are referred to in several Bible books. One is described in Job chapter 40 starting at verse 15, and the other in Job chapter 41 starting at verse 1

Statements Consistent With Astronomy The Bible frequently refers to the great number of stars in the heavens.

Genesis 22:17 ".....the stars of the heaven and as the sand which is on the seashore; and your descendants shall possess the gate of their enemies."

Jeremiah 33:22

"As the host of heaven cannot be numbered, nor the sand of the sea measured, so will I"

The Bible also says that each star is unique.

1 Corinthians 15:41

"There is one glory of the sun, another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars; for one star differs from another star in glory."

The Bible describes the precision of movement in the universe.

Jeremiah 31:35,36

"Thus says the LORD,
Who gives the sun for a light by day,
The ordinances of the moon and the stars for a light by night,
Who disturbs the sea, And its waves roar....."

The Bible describes the suspension of the Earth in space.

Job 26:7

He stretches out the north over empty space;
He hangs the earth on nothing.

"Evolution vs. Creation" (part three)

Written by [Bloubulheks](#)

Friday, 25 January 2008

- Mark Eastman, M.D., Chuck Missler: "The Creator Beyond Time and Space," (1996, pp. 83-102.) To believe life could be the product of random chance (as supposed by Darwinian evolution) is to swim against the tide of modern empirical science.

- **1980 Peppered Moth Experiment:** The photographs found in the textbooks were staged using dead moths glued to tree trunks. (Jonathan Wells, Ph.D., "Second Thoughts about Peppered Moths," 1999

- **Genetic Mutations:** "...it is universally agreed that wolves, coyotes, dingoes, jackals, foxes, and the hundreds of different domestic dog breeds probably all came from an original pair of "dogs". This is "Variation within a Kind," NOT upward evolution from simplicity into complexity as supposed by Darwin's theory of evolution.

- **Vestigial Organs:** Back in 1895, Robert Wiedersheim listed 180 alleged vestigial organs. This list included: tonsils, coccyx (tail bone), thymus, little toe, male nipples, ear nodes, pineal gland, adenoids, appendix, wisdom teeth, parathyroid, ear muscles, body hair, and the nictitating membrane of the eye.

Dr. Walt Brown: "The existence of human organs whose function is unknown does not imply they are vestiges of organs inherited from our evolutionary ancestors."

Evidence for "Evolution" - **Where is it?** Why do we have to imagine macro-evolution happening "long ago and far away...?"

- H.S. Lipson: " In fact, Evolution became in a sense a scientific religion;"

- **Morowitz and Hoyle: When it comes to the "Miracle of Life.....the odds calculated are staggering.....it is the same as a tornado sweeping through a junk yard could assemble a Boeing 747 from the contents therein.... In the realm of Metaphysics....i.e. a Miracle" "...if you should put a frog in a blender for 2 min. and seal it off. Thousands of years later, you would not find a brand new super frog but only....."**

- Francis Crick: (Nobel prize 1982 – DNA Molecule work) ".....the origin of life appears at the moment to be almost a miracle...."

- I.L. Cohen: "...after all, it is not the duty of science to defend the theory of evolution.....let's cut the umbilical cord that tied us down to Darwin.....It is choking us and holding us back....The theory of Evolution may be the worst mistake made in science."

- Anthony Flew at the age of 81 renounced his atheism: "A Super - Intelligence....It could be God....in the realm of metaphysics....."

Evidence for "Creation" – "Next time, let's see what has been proved...."

"Evolution vs. Creation" (part one)

Written by [Bloubulheks](#)

Tuesday, 22 January 2008

I found reading the blogs concerning (Reason or Religion) intriguing. "Evolution and Creation" made me "Google" just that. Out of the 211,000 results, not knowing exactly where to start and I picked, "The Great Debate over the Model of Origins: the theories, contentions and evidence." "The Lack of Evidence and Resolutions."

Driven by curiosity, I stumbled on a few very interesting statements made by various scientists, physicists, astrobiologists and philosophers over many years. Jay Richards, Paul Davies, Albert Einstein, Robin Collins discussed: The Big Bang; Forces and Constants; Speed of Light – Timely tuned for our existence – but proved not to be a constant, makes Mathematical equations impossible and The Irreducible Complex System which brings me to the 150 year old "Darwin's Theory of Evolution"

I quote Darwin: ".....and if only one part is missing my whole Theory will break down....."

Michael Denton: "Evolution: A Theory in Crisis" DNA Double Helix a recent discovery of Enormous Complexity. (Worth to read, i.e. The Eye;...)

Darwin reasoned: "... that more complex eyes gradually evolved from the simpler ones." This hypothesis no longer passes matter. Macro-biological and genetic information and paleontology now shows that "simple creatures" like a trilobite has an eye with a complete double lens system, considered as a Miracle by today's standards.

Stephen Jay Gould confessed: "The extreme rarity, after millions of fossils found - Not one Transitional Specimen was found"

David B. Kitts: "Evolution requires intermediate forms ("gaps") between species and paleontology does not provide them..."

N. H. Nilsson: "My attempts to demonstrate evolution by an experiment carried on for more than 40 years have completely failed....The fossil material is now so complete....The deficiencies are real, they will never be filled."

[infinite density](#)

Written by [Liquid circle](#)

Monday, 07 January 2008

If we want to look at where the universe comes from we have to go back billions of light years. And although today's technology is pretty clued up, looking that far back really becomes a theory without facts. Be that as it may through today's technology we can assume that space was created by what we call today the big bang. It seems that scientists in the know reckon that many moons ago, roughly 800 billion or so space was created through infinite density, meaning that there was nothing but a lot of pressure that was building through gravity. This gravity zone was so dense that it exploded and created the big bang.

After the big bang space started to take shape. Our galaxy as we know it today has roughly got 5 trillion stars and is one of the smaller galaxies around. In our immediate surroundings we have about 30 to 35 galaxies all having their own star and planet systems. The nearest galaxy to our Milky Way is called Andromeda it's only a stone throw away in galactic terms, being about 5 billion light years or so. Andromeda's gravity pull is so strong that it will eventually suck up our galaxy as we know it. This, lucky for us will take another billion years or so so nothing to stress about in 2008.

However because of the big bang our solar system, gravity, life and all has been created and seeing that our galaxy grows by a million stars every month it is a great reason to believe that evolution is rife. We humans always search for proof of evolution on planet earth, and yes if you see that about 45 new species of animals surface on our planet every year it also proves that evolution is key. However if we look towards the stars at night that's where the real evolution is happening. It might take another couple of billion new years parties for our universe to be completely different but it's in the process of changing and as our universe changes, we on our little blob of a planet change with that.

Evolution is a certainty, no one can doubt that, can they? It is evident all over the universe and even on our planet, it is however the people that do not believe in evolution that put doubt in people's minds. Are these people scientists like the ones that discover new galaxies in our universe or are these the people that go to church in put sonder water. Even if you believe in a higher being you can accept evolution as part of your religion, although the question of where human life started will always be an issue.

Even here on MyDL evolution is rife, there are many writers and bloggers on this site that wrote really shitty articles in 2007 and now in 2008 they are and will be great writers because their writing skills "evolutionized"

Do the Homework

Written by [Aratus](#)

Monday, 31 December 2007

I find it amazing the way the science community asks the faith community to do the science homework but when they are required to do the faith homework they simply don't and claim that they can write 8000 years off by labelling it 'scientifically irrelevant'.

It's like the kid who joins the 8 hr game of soccer and then 2 minutes later claims that the ball is his and walks off with it!

There are two main points we're arguing.

The supposed facts of evolution and the differing views of the bible.

I'm not suggesting that every religion be taught in science class. I am suggesting that the other alternative also be presented, but not exclusively. The other alternative theory that there is a person behind it all. There are two scientific theories, not just one, they both follow the same method to become valid theories. They are tested differently but neither of them irrationally. They both have weird implications, and both are speculation, Job is a speculative wisdom writing.

Schools should help children with the conclusions they draw from what they observe, that is the job of the teacher. No teacher has the authority to tell children what to see and what not to see (I know religions have been dogmatic before, that is not the point, I am interested in that way not happening again). When I listen to Professor Dawkins tell me that there is so much misery, pain and suffering, in fact chaos, that I ought to believe that there is no God; when Dan Denett says that there is no mind behind natural selection because "that's just the way it works," then I have no choice but to conclude that what they are doing is telling me what to see.

You see the professor is standing behind a podium with neatly cut hair and a sports jacket on, he is being recorded with a wireless mike cleverly tucked behind his ear. His image and words are being smartly stored and made available for download for multi-platform computers on a very organised world wide digital network. And I observe very little of the chaos he is telling me I'm supposed to see. When I look at the natural world, at the universe, I see a huge amount of order and an attempted invasion of chaos. I see actual progress not merely development (let alone the expected entropy) then I question Mr Denett's observation.

What is it that causes things, particularly the sum total of everything we see, to simply disobey the second law of thermodynamics (entropy). I want to know why?

Doctor Melvyn C. Usselman. Associate Professor of Chemistry, University of Western Ontario says: "Taken together, all processes occurring now will result in a universe of greater disorder. Because the entropy of the universe is always increasing, a state of greater entropy must be one that occurs later in time. For this reason, entropy has been called "time's arrow."

Great, but that's not what's happening, what we have is greater order all over but never more so than in Human Reason itself, inside of man. How is it that? Why is that? I think that a Creator theory, or ID if you want to call it that, may yield some answers, no less weird than relativity, but reasonable and relational.

Let me answer some of Dissol's comments:

"I could spend hours pointing out various parts of the bible that really make no sense at all, including genesis...are we really supposed to believe that a supernatural being managed all this in 6 days?? Even though it does not fit the facts?? Some other bits are really, really weird... "

If you discount the bible because it is as you say 'weird', how then do you accept the implications of relativity? That is equally weird, but your logic is weirder still.

No, you are not supposed to believe that the universe was created in 6 days, that is just stupid and tells me that you have not even given the bible a second's consideration. Even ancient people could reason that the sun needs to exist in order for a 24hour period to take place, and since the sun was only created on the 4th 'day' it could not have meant a 24hr period.

I think I know what it means, but since you've just written it off because you don't like to think of a person behind it, even though I have suggested a rational method to look at it and rational reasons why we should, I'm not sure it's worth discussing until you've done your homework. You keep taking the Shakespear argument (you can't prove he really wrote the plays) because you refuse to look at the bible as literature and thus relational and you insist that it answer your science questions, which it was never written to answer and does not pretend to answer.

Just like Elizabeth Barrett Browning's poem "How do I love thee? let me count the ways" was not written to document conclusively the 8 and only 8 ways she loves this person. You miss the point!

"Imagining a world...you imagined this world, and then said that is exactly what you would expect if there was a god. well, i am saying that i am imagining this world, and it is exactly how i would expect it to look with no god!!! Why chaos (any worse than we have?)?"

Show me the chaos, please, show me the chaos. How does a rational mind evolve out of entropy? That is an utter mystery to me and is as supernatural as Christ rising from a gruesome death.

"I am not saying that everyone has to give up their god...and I know that religion plays a huge part in many people's lives, and that should be admired. But religious pluralism. Each person should be safe to believe, or not in whichever system or god of their choosing, without anyone else's belief system impacting on them. If i choose not to go to your church or mosque or temple, or whatever, then i am not hurting you. if i choose to make use of medical science through stem cell research, then i am not hurting you. It is when there is an intolerance (at worse at nation level) then we always have problems. None of the regimes quoted had their absolute *raison d'etre* founded in non-

belief. They were fundamental regimes (Nazi, communist, etc.), which became a doctrine & a dogma, as bad as the christianity during the dark ages." I too have no concern with pluralism, but pluralism is not what you are suggesting. You are suggesting serious, intelligent people of influence to make decisions for people. Stem cell research may well hurt me (It needn't hurt anyone, I agree there is an ethical path forward for stem cell research, but it requires people of character, intelligence and qualification, not just intelligence and qualification).

"We can track animals (including man) back to pre-homo sapiens forms." Well now, show me the tracker who was able to do such a thing and how he did it. Nothing I have seen comes anywhere close to this bold statement.

"science is not about saying what does not happen, but in what does" Atheism though is about what people don't believe, not what they do. What they do believe is assumed upon them by default. Neat trick.

"I am happy to discuss evolution as a scientific theory, and we can debate the explanations, but we cannot deny the evidence used to base those explanations on. It would be like trying to discuss a piece of steel when one person says that, nevermind the evidence, to them it is magnetic wood..." It's the Shakespear problem again, but I have not simply denied what I see based on what I have read in the bible. I do think though that you have done the reverse.

Could you post a blog on the theory, I'd love to discuss it based entirely on the evidence from a scientific method. I've done my homework.

Lastly we kind of left off the last discussion about ethics. Here's my last comment.

"You're not quite getting me. I didn't ask where we could find serious intelligent people who knew the facts or even if they were easy to find. I asked who would get to choose them. Qualified? Who is it that qualifies others in ethics? The president, maybe the president of the ANC?"

You think these serious, qualified people would not be in a position of power? Now you are starting to scare me. Of course it is a position of power, even the less intelligent and serious can see that. You say they should not be positions of power, but I assure you they will be!

Does 'going on your own proposition' mean that you agree with me? That you think it worth investigating why ethics are so globally similar in their foundation?

Not many sports allow cheating, yes but more importantly people prefer watching sports skill to the skill of cheating, they seem for some reason to despise cheating, even though cheaters prosper."

A Relational Method

Written by [Aratus](#)

Monday, 24 December 2007

The Scientific Method of procedure has been used in Science since the 17th century. It is the way many useful discoveries have been made and exploited. It goes about its very successful way by systematic observation, measurement, and experiment, and the formulation, testing, and modification of hypotheses.

I believe that there are other methods of procedure. The one I am interested in is a Relational Method whereby we know people. Not just physiologically but intimately. The scientific method has limited value when it comes to knowing persons this way and, I'd like to suggest, especially when it comes to two persons, the person of myself and the ultimate person (if there is such a person):

Bryan Magee in *The Story of Philosophy* says "The core of Stoic Philosophy is that there can be no authority higher than reason." But this is not the case, my own experience tell me there is a higher authority:

Professor J.B.S.Haldane, a geneticist and evolutionary biologist (1892–1964) at Oxford, Cambridge and Trinity, said the following:

"If my mental processes are determined wholly by the motions of atoms in my brain, I have no reason to suppose that my beliefs are true ... and hence I have no reason for supposing my brain to be composed of atoms."

This is a very tough problem for the evolutionist, personally I think it is fatal to their theory. It's the same conclusion that Augustine came to when he said, "The mind itself is not the essence of truth."

So it seems that science can tell me a lot of very useful things about about myself and my environment, except the essence of who myself is. But what if that is the very thing I am needing to know? Well I propose a Relational Model of procedure for that and it involves systematic personal observation, listening to and deciding what words to believe and what to discard (the minute any person lies, or is shown to have lied, he/she becomes a liar and none of his/her words can be trusted, especially when one lies to oneself), and then the formulation, testing, and modification of hypotheses.

When we try and answer questions of intimacy with a scientific method (especially when trying to understand self), it eventually becomes like one of those very complicated knots which looks so substantial until you tie the final loop, pull it tight and the whole thing unravels before your eyes. You would have done better to stop earlier, but it's too late, you can't now go back.

Let me give an example, suppose my wife may want to be sure that I love her. She makes many personal observations of my behaviour and words directed at her, these are available to everyone else at best as second hand information or eavesdropping (same thing). Then she decides if my words and my actions correlate. Then she puts forward a theory; she might use her observations to

refute the theory that I do love her.

We can use this same method when looking for evidence of another extreme relationship, namely that of a creator God.

Dissol and I have spent a great deal of time arguing the merits of this method in my previous blog "One God Further".

Let me start then where we left off with two objections to any form of theism in a Relational Method. I can imagine no other objections.

1. My personal observation may lead me to believing there is such a person, and yours may not. They are personal observations after all. What do I say when someone says "I have no personal experience of God"?

2. If we imagined this God what are we to imagine? One of the many gods believed before, if so which one and on what grounds? Why should we not just imagine a whole new one? Are we to seek into every religion to see if there's a God behind it? What if we were to find relational evidence of more than one god?

I have very little to say about this first objection because I cannot experience my experiences on your behalf. But in that statement lies the only thing I can say and it turns out to be really worth saying. "I am and you are not me," is a fact in every meaning of the word, and I am positive it is not in dispute anywhere: I am me and you are not. I am a different person to you, and that does leave me with a remarkable clue.

The Universe, it seems, would be better describes as a Multiverse. It has many persons. Billions on this planet alone.

This is not a fact that needs any further experimentation. It is not liable to error like Carbon dating, or Radiometric dating (also very unreliable in my opinion). It is not liable to biased assumption either conscious or subconscious.

It is not reliant on specialists in any field. Yet it is without a doubt, a Fact!

This fact is unscientific in it's discovery (and I defy you to prove me wrong in this, 'you are not me' is a fact that you cannot verify in a lab anywhere closer to verifying it within yourself. It is a fact that you just know, not by faith but by personal experience, and the fact that others have words and ideas which are not your own and you have no access to unless they speak them in a language you understand). Because it is an unscientific fact, one must call it 'metaphysical'.

The clue that this metaphysical fact leaves is this: The Universe must be relational. The fact that humans seem to have a desire to be ethical (or at least seem to be ethical) proves this to me. No one but the Cynic denies some sort of ethic, what that ethic ought to be is debated, but that there should be ethics is not debated at all. (except by the Cynic who's argument I reject simply because he, by his own reason, rejects his own reason).

If the Universe is relational then any theory of the Universe (any ultimate theory) must also be relational. Even if there was just myself I would expect myself to suffer extreme loneliness (this is the Existentialist's problem) without even knowing what it is I am suffering, besides it being an extremely unpleasant experience.

This leads me to a very reasonable supposition (all without any reference at all

to a Scientific Method): What if there is someone behind it all? What is it that we should expect if this is the case? Well that depends on what kind of person this ultimate person would be (if they existed) and what this supposed person wanted (if anything).

Evolution puts exactly nothing behind Natural Selection not because the observations simply lead us there, but because someone asked a 'what if' question, What if there is exactly nothing behind the natural process? So mankind started using words like 'nature' instead of 'creation'. This was not a response (as we will see) to the gathered facts. But a response to an exciting and intriguing idea.

It's a bit like if the kids discovered one day that mom and dad were suddenly not anywhere in the house, that they had the run of the place. What does it mean? What could they do? Are there still rules? Why should I listen to you? etc... These are what I call 'candy questions', exciting, intriguing and valid but premature. Perhaps a search made for a note from mom and dad would be prudent. So that is what this is. A search for a word from the ultimate person. If the universe is relational, that is what I would expect.

Now perhaps one of the clever kids saw an opportunity and wrote a fake letter from dad saying that he was to be the authority on everything whilst mom and dad were away. Very clever but short sighted. Firstly if mom and dad ever were to return he would be in vast trouble, treason is dealt with domestically, nationally and ethically. Secondly if there were any other smart kids around they would most likely see through the plot, Mom and dad are not very likely to give this kind of kid that kind of authority. Apart from that the children should involve a scientific method to compare handwriting, age of the ink, spelling and language etc.

In any literary criticism the content of what is written (evaluated by a relational method) is as important as all the other scientific tests we must do to determine how likely the text is to be authentic. This is true from a love letter, to an e-mail from a Nigerian minister of finance, to the Bible, to the Koran. So, in our search for an ultimate person, before we thought we'd be ready we have, based on some really solid facts, to examine writings claiming to have come from such an ultimate person/s.

But we are moving a little too quickly. You may object, as Richard Dawkins does, the the Universe being relational, on the grounds of the pain and the suffering that is experienced all the time in the food chain events of daily life not to mention the hurt humans cause on eachother, themselves and other species just for the sport of it. My answer is that, despite the food chain, instinct and disgusting behaviour of humans; there is not only a lot of peace, love joy and beauty; there is in fact exponentially more good than bad, satisfaction than pain. Besides that, I have to ask why it is that I should feel attracted to the peace more than to the pain. Why is it that I should feel satisfied, even at an instinct level, for rescuing a poor bug trapped in a pool or helping a blind person.

Then, before we look into the search for the word from the ultimate person. I need to mention my personal experiences simply because I, by a relational

method, believe them to be true. Though I have no way of measuring them in a lab. They are reliant on my testimony and, should anyone be interested, the testimony of those concerned. I have only given 4 of these experiences, there are countless more that I wish everyone to have:

1. I have 2 friends, one locally and one in Kenya, diagnosed HIV+, The friend locally who should have died at least 4 times that I know of, she now has both test results one saying HIV+ and the other 4 years later HIV-. The other friend who was alone on his death bed 7 years ago in Nairobi, who now leads a church and had 3 children and a wonderful wife, both answers to prayer I believe because I was one of the people praying. For my friend here we prayed for 2 years.
2. Then there is woman I was recently counselling, in the session God told me to ask her if she had ever seen an alien. A strange question indeed (I've never had the thought, let alone the desire to ask that before). It turns out that she had what she thought was an alien in her home for months. When I asked her what God told me to she admitted, with some shock, that she had not told a living soul about this thing claiming to be an 'alien' (unless you count the alien as a living soul).
3. Then there are many people I have witnessed on their death beds, and the absolute contrast between a dying Christian and a dying atheist (I have not witnessed any other kind of person on their death bed).
4. Lastly there are the personal and miraculous answers to personal prayer (not every prayer, maybe not even most prayers) that I have had. So much so that I am beginning to see a pattern, these prayers are answered in reverse proportion to them being for my personal pleasure or gain, and they are answered in almost direct proportion to my relationship with the God I am praying to. Faith, it seems to me, is not in faith. It is in a person or it is not faith.

So now we come to the search for some word from this ultimate person. Well it seems that Yossarian has done a bit of a work in this regard on this blog site on what the bible actually is. Very useful suggestions and comments for anyone doing some research, If you look you'll see that he constantly references this relational method in literary criticism (eyewitnesses, content of the text, etc)

But what of all the others? Surely there have been so many. What if the true one has not been discovered yet? And what if there just is none? And lastly, if the Universe is relational why must we rely on a word. Why can't we see the real deal.

Why have mom and dad left the house in the first place? Is that not irresponsible.

Next...

One god further - with breaks

Written by [Aratus](#)

Tuesday, 18 December 2007

This is a duplicate blog. You can see all the comments & discussion here:

[http://www.mydigitallife.co.za/index.php?](http://www.mydigitallife.co.za/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=9153&Itemid=29)

[option=com_content&task=view&id=9153&Itemid=29](http://www.mydigitallife.co.za/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=9153&Itemid=29)

I was listening to a talk given by Richard Dawkins the other day; Richard Dawkins, if you don't know, is a Professor of Biology at Oxford who calls himself a militant atheist. In his talk the Professor made a number of statements that got me thinking. One of them was this: "We are all atheists about most of the gods humanity has believed in, some of us just go one god further."

He was speaking about all people, including theists and he is, in the first point, quite right. We are indeed all atheists about most of the 'theos', the supposed deities, that men have believed in over time.

But I disagree with his second point, "some of us just go one god further." I think Professor Dawkins is not being very honest, the truth is that we all go 'one god further', even Professor Dawkins goes, as he says 'one god further'. Instead of putting himself into an new enlightened position as he supposes, the Professor has instead put himself back at the beginning. I'd like to suggest that this stance is merely a development dressed up as progress, it is not progress at all. In fact evolution, by definition, denies progress altogether. Evolution is a philosophy of development, rolling out of one change and rolling into another, going somewhere while going nowhere. It is a thought older than history itself and instead of revealing something new it simply shuffles the hand we've been dealt.

A little while ago I was in Washington State in the USA and I caught one of those marvellous ferries from Bremerton to Seattle, these ferries are like floating malls they each carry about 50 or 60 cars, perhaps more, and I'm sure they could carry more than a thousand people. One thing which struck me was that when one boards the ferry one is not too sure where the ferry itself starts and where land ends. There is a complicated system of rails and ramps, and the boat (if I may call it that) is so big that the waves don't make it move enough for me to be sure that at any time I have left the land. One has the urge to go further onto the boat just to make sure one is actually on it.

I think that illustrates Professor Dawkins' position quite well. He assumes that he is on the land speaking to all the people on the boat and he's calling all on the boat who are unsure of it's destination to come off of it to where he is. But he is mistaken, what is really dry land is much further back from where he is standing and it is getting further away while he is standing still. This is so because if he were to take an honest look back, he would see that not only is he in the same boat, but also the vessel has already been launched from the docks and is sailing off.

"Complexity," says the professor, "is the problem which any theory of biology has to solve, and you can't solve it by postulating an agent that is even more complex thereby simply compounding the problem." But has the professor not done exactly the same thing? If one were to ask him what it is then that he believes he would not answer, "I believe in nothing for I can prove nothing." Many thousands of years ago the Greek Cynics began to answer the question exactly like that. Using my illustration that stance would be indeed to remain on the shore or to jump off the boat and attempt a swim back.

The true cynic does not call all other cynics out of hiding because if one calls ones-self a "respectable cynic" (who is guided by some impulse to be an honest voice in the community, saving people from errors of the past) then one is no cynic at all. If the Professor is not a cynic then he must have a belief. He calls it a theory but don't be blinded by the semantics, a theory is simply a belief. I say 'don't be blinded by the semantics', I do not mean 'don't be blinded by the science'. The science is not what concerns me at all. In fact what I wish is that the evolutionist adherence to the rules of English were as rigid as their adherence to the rules of science.

A theory of biology, or any other theory, does not solve anything, neither does it have to to remain a theory (a bad theory is just as much of a theory as a good one). Professor Dawkins says it does. In the same way the belief in a deity does not bring that deity to life (a wrong belief is just as much a belief as a right one). A theory may legitimately exist without there being any way at all of proving it either way, and we are called every day to reject hundreds of them, in the same way that mankind has been asked over the centuries to reject hundreds of 'theos'.

What is it that makes professor Dawkin's theory 'the one to believe'? It must be all the proof, the fact that the theory solves the complexity problem and so graduates from theoryhood to become truth... But it is not presented with such proof, or have I missed something? I have yet to read of evidence, and even if I had, on what grounds should I believe it. What I have heard is a lot of suppositions, suppositions that would turn Socrates over in his grave.

Here are some examples:

Dan Dennett says about sheep's symbiosis with man that it is a "clever move of natural selection itself." I would like to know how it is that a process is able to make a clever move? Perhaps he is a closet Jedi, expressing his belief in Mediclorians? He goes on; "The designs discovered by natural selection are brilliant, unbelievably brilliant... but the process itself is without purpose, without foresight, without design... The design is there in nature but it's not in anybody's head, it doesn't have to be, that's the way evolution works." Well, this Natural Selection character is sounding almost as much like a person as I have been lead to believe that Evolution herself must be; if it does not 'create' then it is able to 'discover' Not even animals discover. "that's just the way evolution works," is a statement of faith in the same category (or boat) as "you are the Christ, the son of the living God." Mr Dennett it seems has as much faith as Professor Dawkins.

Professor Leslie Orgel who died this year said "evolution is cleverer than you

are." Well if that is the case then Evolution must be more of a person than I am. Unless one takes the Buddhist stance that we are in the process of becoming God along with everything else and that God is the sum total of everything, which is precisely nothing. If that is the case, we come all the way back to that troubling old word 'God'; concept, person or both and we have to answer a very silly question: How can nothing do so many brilliant, and clever things?

Paul Mccready says "Over billions of years on a unique sphere chance has painted a thin covering of life, complex, improbable, wonderful and fragile. Suddenly we humans a recently arrived species no longer subject to the checks and balances inherent in nature have grown in population, technology and intelligence to a position of terrible power. We now wield the paint brush." I feel a little like a child told about Santa for the first time who asks 'but how does he get round the world in one night?' I'd ask Paul Mccready 2 questions: 1. How is it that chance managed such a complex and wonderful living painting with inherent checks and balances (none of which I deny)? You see, when I leave my car, my dog, my garden, my work or anything else to chance it seems to go in quite the opposite direction (he does not dignify chance with a capital letter even though he treats her as a person, when I went to school proper nouns were always spelt with a capital; I wonder if his 'chance' character ever gets mad?). Perhaps his answer would be that there is chance and there is Chance, but he'd probably like to avoid looking like he's trying to appease her. Perhaps he's Buddhist in which case he'd much rather appease you and I who, after all are becoming God. The only other answer I could imagine he would give is that this statement is only a theory, by definition incomplete, and that one should not jump to faith conclusions based on flowery English, that for all he knows chance could very well be a person, by his language she certainly acts like one. But then he should say so should he not? 2. The other question I'd ask is this: How can something as sublime as this chance, be so clumsy at to hand the brush over to us humans?

My concerns are language and logic concerns, not scientific ones. Perhaps all of these faith statements (Christian preaching included), like cigarette packets, should carry a health warning. "Listening to these theories could induce you to believe them as fact." But that is what all honest theistic preaching does. It calls people to faith when faith is all they can have. It does not, like the preaching of the non-thiest, call true what is yet to be established and so, by poor English alone, hide in the small print the faith deposit required to believe the theory.

I think it is worthwhile debating whether or not Darwin's theory (or any other) is true, what I cannot live with is a theory that denies faith in anything and then asks people to assume it's true while still calling itself a theory. It is like saying "Faith is a concept we intellectuals have grown out of, except faith in our theory which must be true because we're intellectuals."

If a theory's job is to answer a problem then only upon answering it satisfactorily to the rigorous demands of logic does it graduate. It is then no longer a theory but a fact.

This is a very difficult thing, the Existentialists demand that the only theory to have done it is the theory of self. The Christians say that the theory of Christ has done it and in so doing He has qualified a number of other theories as fact. And the Athiests seem to be swaying (because sway they must) towards evolution's theory. These are all unestablished theories, all of them requiring faith in a concept that becomes more and more a person the longer one looks at it. Only one of them is honest enough to admit to requiring faith in a super-natural person right from the start.

Evolution's theory described as a myth would look something like this:

Evolution is very much like a benevolent, super-relaxed, all powerful, active yet unconscious female goddess. She has a daughter called Natural Selection who seems slightly more conscious but unable, it seems, to ask "where am I? who am I?" Everything is kept in some order, despite their dream status, by what can best be described as a third person, a spirit, the spirit of Nature who keeps house, keeps the other two from bumping into things and causing too much damage, points their wands in the right directions and such. Nature is either mortally afraid or incapable (no one is sure which) of waking them, but she has no real power of her own. They form, in fact, a trinity related somehow, one would think, to the Adams family... Looking at evolution this way it is clearly a religion too. It's easy to poke fun at a myth one does not believe, but doesn't one gets offended when fun is poked at a myth one does believe?

Dawkins admits it himself when he says: "When athiests like Stephen Hawking and Albert Einstein use the word god they use it of course as a metaphorical shorthand for that deep mysterious part of physics which we don't yet understand." I use the word God as a metaphorical shorthand for the deep mysterious person which I have no hope of ever really understanding. Both of these postulations require a measure of faith my friends; and neither of them solve the complexity problem. Mine requires less faith because it does not pretend or even attempt to solve the complexity problem, the atheist's postulation does pretend to solve it.

Even belief that there is truth as opposed to non truth is a theory. A concept that only the cynics deny. In fact the cynic can be defined as one who is an 'atruthist', which is more of a problem for him than it is for the sceptic who says that his reason causes him to doubt his reason. The cynic says that his reason causes him to deny his reason. That is like presenting with stomach juices so strong that they dissolve even one's stomach. It is an agonisingly fatal position.

The evolutionist is no cynic, he has spent too much time and money at school to take such a position. But the evolutionist's disciples will have no such advantage to take for granted. They will be true cynics.

Evolution says that authority exists but is perpetually sleeping. How long then until its stewards attempt what they think will be an easy coup? It has been attempted before.

Personally speaking I battle to believe this evolutionary theology, I think there are better theologies; so I am an Aevolutionist and I am calling all those closet

Aevoltuonists out there to nail their colours to the mast; to refuse to be bullied by a vigilante theory of the intelligencia, who, like a self-appointed clergy, have moved into the neighbourhood offering an intellectual protection that the average man fears to refuse. An IQ Mafia with 180+ thugs who threaten to ridicule the 100 man. We must protect future generations from an age darker than the world has ever seen. Where every every 'right' is called "stupid irrationality" and every 'wrong' is called "pragmatic" by the priests of the spirit of Nature.

I think that kitchenware is wonderfully useful stuff, what I cannot tolerate though is a used pot calling a kettle black.

You do not fit in my religion, sorry Judas

Written by [Liquid circle](#)

Tuesday, 18 December 2007

So many blogs have been written lately about facts, theory and Evolution. I doubt if anyone can prove on this platform what is right and what is wrong. But so there are many area's of confusion about this topic especially when it comes to religion and evolution. However there are area's that concern me more than others.

In recent history they found the book of Judas somewhere in a cave in the middle east, in Egypt if i am not mistaken, but please do not quote me on this. The scrolls that were found had been stashed away for literally 1000's of years, after being found they were taken by some really clever guys to a laboratory in Europe and scrutinized from page 1 till the end.

After years of evaluating and putting pieces together and deciphering one of the oldest languages written they have come to the fact that this was the original script written as the book of Judas.

Although i am not a religious person i still have read the bible to make 100% sure that i am comfortable with my decision to not believe in God. When you read the bible as we know it you will find that Judas was the bad apple amongst Jesus's disciples, he has given Jesus over to the Romans for a handful of gold pieces.

We in modern society all have learned about Judas and we even have sayings as "He's a real Judas" and other sayings can come to mind. In Germany a law was passed at one time that you could not name your child Judas as the name was not accepted. Because of Judas's actions many rules, laws and sayings are used or implemented in modern society

All these decisions were based on Theory, because of what other people had written about Judas. Now in the discovery of the book of Judas, written by Judas all this seems not to be true, according to Judas, Jesus was his homie. According to Judas they were the closest of all. It is also written in the book of Judas that Jesus asked Judas to tell the Romans where he was, so that he would not have to suffer anymore. You see when you look at it Jesus was not at all as successful then as he is now, why was that? Anyway, we have learned about the words of the bible for many years. The bible as we know it has 4 books, according to some theories there are 32 books, however this still needs to be proven. The fact however remains that they have found the book of Judas and this should be included into the modern bible if the religion want to hold on to the last little bit of respect that it still has.

But no, they have decided that they will refrain from including Judas's book into the bible. What does this tell you? To me it means that they do not want to face the reality, meaning that if they include the book of Judas into the bible the rest of the 4 books would not gel anymore and that would create chaos in

the Christian religion, would it not?

So the solution as they see it is to disregard the book of Judas, because they see fit to do so, what the hell? In the bible it teaches people to be fair, honest and non judgmental, but what are they doing? Here they have found one of the oldest most holiest documents ever found in human history, proof that these people really existed, and what do they do with it?? They ignore it? These are the same people that preach that you will die and burn in hell if you do not live by the means of Christianity, well see you there then.

I have tried to believe as at times as life is not always easy, i have never found peace through the bible or any other religious books, and when i think of it, knowing what i know i am rather happy as i would be very confused by now.

I was told once by a Dominee that if you do not know the answer to a question and if God can't give you the answer through prayer "One just needs to accept it the way it is and believe like a child" Well that's an easy way out, it however did not work for me.

Fact, Evolution, or fiction, people believe whatever they want anyway.....

[The theory behind theory - A response to Dissol](#)

Written by [Wolfe](#)

Tuesday, 18 December 2007

Before reading this post, please go and read: Evolution is science FACT – Dissol. (Sorry, I'm not that sure how to do the links thing yet....too lazy to find out) The summary of the debate:

Dissol: People do not understand the meaning of scientific theory. People denying evolution makes as much sense as people denying gravity.

Wolfe: The word theory means just that. It's a theory, not fact.

I commented on his post, challenging what he said, but I fear I may have frustrated him to no end. Dissol, please accept my most humble apology, but I really craved some debate.

Here is the truth on what I think about Dissol's post. The word theory has a different meaning in scientific terms.

This is true. To plebes like you and me, Theory means: hunch, guess, explanation not supported by fact. In science, a theory is an explanation of an occurrence based on facts and evidence.

Evolution is science FACT

This is also true. The biggest mistake people like you and me make is to assume that the Theory of Evolution says that man evolved from an ape-like animal. The truth is that evolution does exist in many forms. In terms of biology, evolution has been witnessed, so evolution is a fact. We however seem to get hung up on the whole Ape to Man thing.

My religion (Christian) has taught me that the fundamental of my religion is Faith. So, I accept that man was created by God. As result, I can also accept that we evolved from an ape-like creature, because surely God created that creature? God created man, but there is no book or Wikipedia info on how exactly He did it. Evolution is as good as any explanation, isn't it? I have to point out that it's possible He created man in one day, but then again, what is a day for God?

The theory of evolution is both fact and theory This is also true when taken in context with what Dissol is saying.

Although I respect Dissol for his attempt to clarify something that is widely misunderstood and although I respect his apparent scientific knowledge, there is one concern I have.

I quote: "I find people denying Evolution as making as much sense as people denying gravity!"

Dissol, no offence here, but I find the above statement diminishes the substance of your post. Although I understand what you are trying to say, you make the same mistake as so many people make about theory vs. scientific

theory.

Most people will deny evolution on the basis of their religious belief due to the fact that they are of the opinion that The Theory of Evolution claims that we have evolved from an ape-like creature. Is it really so hard to understand why they deny evolution??

Comparing gravity to evolution (in terms of what people generally believe) without understanding why, is denying yourself an understanding that's fundamental to the root of your frustration.

I find people denying the psychology behind answers and reasoning, the same as denying cause and effect.

PS: For those interested, I have mailed a Prof. (PhD) regarding the question: Why do we call it the LAW of Gravity and the THEORY of Evolution. (The theory of gravity is not the same as the Law of Gravity)

PS: I also need to point out that the theory of evolution with regards to the origin of man remains a debate, even in the scientific community.

One god further

Written by [Aratus](#)

Sunday, 16 December 2007

I was listening to a talk given by Richard Dawkins the other day; Richard Dawkins, if you don't know, is a Professor of Biology at Oxford who calls himself a militant atheist. Someone once referred to him as Darwin's Rottweiler, which is a bit unfair because he is as much a gentleman as Karl Marx was. His disciples though (who by his own teachings will not have an upbringing like his own, who will not be inclined to take goodness and honesty for granted but rather to question goodness and honesty) may well prove to have more Rottweiler aggression than real Rottweiler's.

In his talk the Professor made a number of statements that got me thinking. One of them was this: "We are all atheists about most of the gods humanity has believed in, some of us just go one god further." He was speaking about all people, including theists and he is, in the first point, quite right. We are indeed all atheists about most of the 'theos', the supposed deities, that men have believed in over time.

But I disagree with his second point, "some of us just go one god further." I think Professor Dawkins is not being very honest, the truth is that we all go 'one god further', even Professor Dawkins goes, as he says 'one god further'.

Instead of putting himself into an new enlightened position as he supposes, the Professor has instead put himself at the beginning. He is so far ahead that he's right back at the start.

His kind of intellectualism rejects the thought of God as a person but embraces God as a concept. I'd like to suggest that this stance is merely development dressed up as progress, it is not progress at all. In fact evolution, by definition, denies progress altogether. Evolution is a philosophy of development, rolling out of one change and rolling into another. It is a thought older than history itself and instead of revealing something new it simply shuffles the hand we've been dealt.

A little while ago I was in Seattle and I caught one of those marvellous ferries from Bremmerton to Seattle, these ferries are like floating malls they each carry about 50 or 60 cars, perhaps more, and I'm sure they could carry more than a thousand people. One thing which struck me was that when one boards the ferry one is not too sure where the ferry itself starts and where land ends. There is a complicated system of rails and ramps, and the boat (if I may call it that) is so big that the waves don't make it move enough for me to notice. One has the urge to go further onto the boat just to make sure one is actually on it. I think that illustrates Professor Dawkins' position quite well. He assumes that he is on the land speaking to all the people on the boat and he's calling all on the boat who are unsure of it's destination to come off of it to where he is. But

he is mistaken, what is really dry land is much further back from where he is standing and it is getting further away while he is standing still, because if he were to take an honest look back, he would see that not only is he in the same boat, but also the vessel has already been launched from the docks and is sailing off.

"Complexity," says the professor, "is the problem which any theory of biology has to solve, and you can't solve it by postulating an agent that is even more complex thereby simply compounding the problem."

But has the professor not done exactly the same thing? If one were to ask him what it is then that he believes he would not answer, "I believe in nothing for I can prove nothing." That would be a real dilemma and many thousands of years ago the Greek Cynics began to answer the question exactly like that. Using my illustration that stance would be indeed to remain on the shore or to jump off the boat and swim back.

The true cynic does not call all other cynics out of hiding because if one calls ones-self a "respectable cynic" who is guided by some impulse to be an honest voice in the community, saving people from errors of the past, then one is no cynic at all.

If the Professor is not a cynic then he must have a belief. He calls it a theory but don't be blinded by the semantics, a theory is simply a belief. I say 'don't be blinded by the semantics', I do not mean 'don't be blinded by the science'. The science is not what concerns me at all. In fact what I wish is that the evolutionist adherence to the rules of English were as rigid as their adherence to the rules of science.

A theory of biology, or any other theory have to solve anything. Professor Dawkins says it does. In the same way a the belief in a deity does not bring that deity to life. A theory may legitimately exists without there being any way at all of proving it either way, and we are called every day to reject hundreds of them, in the same way that mankind has been asked over the centuries to reject hundreds of theos.

What is it that makes professor Dawkin's take on life and meaning the 'one to believe'? It must be all the proof, the fact that the theory solves the complexity problem and so graduates from theoryhood to become truth... But it doesn't, or have I missed something? I have yet to read of evidence, and even if I had, on what grounds should I believe it. What I have hear is a lot wicked English, suppositions that would turn Socrates over in his grave.

Here are some examples:

Dan Dennett says about sheep's symbiosis with man that it is a "clever move of natural selection itself." How does a process make a clever move? Perhaps Dan is a closet Jedi, expressing his belief in mediclorians? He goes on; "The designs discovered by natural selection are brilliant, unbelievably brilliant... but the process itself is without purpose, without foresight, without design... The design is there in nature but it's not in anybody's head, it doesn't have to be, that's the way evolution works."

Well, this Natural Selection character is sounding almost as much like a person as I have been lead to believe that Evolution herself must be. Are you hearing what he is saying, "that's just the way evolution works," is a statement of faith

in the same category (or boat) as "you are the Christ, the son of the living God." Mr Dennett it seems has as much faith as Professor Dawkins.

He seems, by the way, to be trying very hard to look like Charles Darwin, I guess it helps with getting the faith across.

Professor Leslie Orgel who died this year "evolution is cleverer than you are."

Well if that is the case then Evolution must be more of a person than I am.

Unless one takes the Buddhist stance that we are in the process of becoming God along with everything else and that God is the sum total of everything, which is precisely nothing. If that is the case, we come all the way back to that troubling old word 'God', concept, person or both.

Paul Mccready

"Over billions of years on a unique sphere chance has painted a thin covering of life, complex, improbable, wonderful and fragile. Suddenly we humans a recently arrived species no longer subject to the checks and balances inherent in nature have grown in population, technology and intelligence to a position of terrible power. We now wield the paint brush."

Like a child told about Santa for the first time asks 'but how does he get round the world in one night?' I'd ask Paul Mccready 2 questions: 1. How is it that chance managed such a complex and wonderful living painting with inherent checks and balances (none of which I deny)? You see, when I leave my car, my dog, my garden or anything else to chance it seems to go in quite the opposite direction (he does not dignify chance with a capital letter even though he personifies her, when I went to school proper nouns were always spelt with a capital; I wonder if his 'chance' character ever gets mad?). Perhaps his answer would be that there is chance and there is Chance, but he'd probably like to avoid looking like he's trying to appease her. Perhaps he's Buddhist in which case he'd much rather appease you and I who, after all are becoming God. The only other answer I could imagine he would give is that this statement is only a theory, by definition incomplete, that one should not jump to faith conclusions based on flowery English, that for qall he knows chance could well be a person. But then he should say so. 2. How can something as sublime as this chance, be so clumsy at to hand the brush over to us humans?

He is trying to write Shakespear with trees and rocks; he's trying to build a Pantheon without any god's to live in it.

Perhaps all of these faith statements (Christian preaching included), like cigarette packets, should carry a health warning. "Listening to these theories could induce you of lesser IQ to believe them as fact." But that is what all honest theistic preaching does. It calls people to faith when faith is all they can have. It does not, like the non-thiest, call people to faith by calling true what is yet to be established and so, by clever English alone, hide the faith deposit required in the small print.

I think it is worthwhile debating weather or not Darwin's theory (or any other) is true, what I cannot live with is asking people to assume it's true while still calling it a theory and then deny faith. If a theory's job is to answer a problem then only upon answering it satisfactorily to the rigourous demands of logic does it graduate. It is then no longer a theory but a fact.

This is a very difficult thing, the Existentialists demand that the only theory to

have done it is the theory of you. The Christians say it is the theory of Christ, and the Atheists seem to be swaying (because sway they must) towards evolution's theory. These are all unestablished theories, all of them requiring faith in a concept that becomes more and more a person the longer one looks at it. Only one of them is honest enough to admit to requiring faith. Christ is spelt with a capital, while evolution is not, the difference between the two is simply that the Christian has the courage to imagine his God a person.

Evolution's theory described as a myth would look something like this:

Evolution has the personality of a benevolent, super-relaxed, powerful, active yet unconscious female god. She has a daughter called Natural Selection who seems slightly more conscious but unable, it seems, to ask "where am I? who am I?"

They keep order from chaos, despite their dream status, by what can best be described as a spirit, the spirit of Nature who keeps house, helps the other two from bumping into things, points their wands in the right directions and such; mortally afraid or incapable (no one is sure which) of waking them. A trinity related somehow, one would think, to the Adams family. Looking at it this way it is clearly, my friends, a religion too.

It's easy to poke fun at a myth one does not believe, but one gets offended when fun is poked at a myth one does believe.

Now I battle to believe this theology, I think there are better ones; so I am an Aevolutionist and I am calling all those closet Aevoltuonists out there to nail their colours to the mast; to call it for what it is; to refuse to be bullied by a vigilante theory of the intelligencia (the new clergy) that has moved into the neighbourhood demanding to be paid intellectual protection money. An IQ mafia with 180+ thugs who threaten to ridicule the 100 IQ man.

We must protect future generations from an age darker than the world has ever seen. Where every act of kindness, every right is called "stupid irrationality" by the priests of the spirit of Nature.

Even belief that there is truth as opposed to non truth is a theory. A concept that only the cynics deny. In fact the cynic can be defined as one who is an 'atruthist', which is more of a problem for him as it is for the sceptic who says that his reason caused him to doubt his reason. The cynic says that his reason causes him to deny his reason. That is like presenting with stomach juices so strong that they dissolve even one's stomach. It is a fatal position. The evolutionist has spent too much time and money at school to take such a position.

Far from rejecting ultimate authority as a concept, the evolutionist embraces it. Evolution says that authority exists but is perpetually sleeping. How long then until its stewards stage an easy coup?

I think that kitchenware is wonderfully useful stuff, what I cannot tolerate though is a used pot calling a kettle black.

Life is meaningless

Written by [mandibleclaw](#)

Sunday, 25 November 2007

I've concluded that life is meaningless.

But, how can you arrive at such a ridiculous conclusion?

Suppose that there is meaning to life. To whom does this meaning apply to? Are aliens' lives meaningless? What about insects? Or do you want to be a specieist and reserve meaning for humans only?

If life is meaningless then why are we here?

Dumb question, but I'll answer it anyway. We are here just because we are. It's as simple as that.

Not everything has to be meaningful or extraordinary like we'd like. For instance, I went to buy a pack of cigarettes the other day, I gave the shop assistant the cash, she gave me the cigarettes. On my way home, I realized that I hadn't said a word throughout the exchange. I didn't usually go to that shop and I don't smoke (the cigarettes weren't for me).

Oh shit! I thought, I'm telepathic! Suddenly I felt powerful, until I realized that I have a propensity to forget everything. Granted, that example is a bit out there, but we humans like to think of ourselves as wonderful creatures when in actual fact we aren't.

Hey, you forgot about God!

God, to me is a good idea, because he is always there to help you when you're down. To give you stuff when you need it and if necessary, give a bit of direction to your life if needed.

But just because you feel his presence and can pray to him every night doesn't actually mean that he exists.

But the world was made for humans!

Only if life had meaning. Since we have to build shelters to shield us from weather and do considerable terraforming just to live semi-comfortably. I think not.

'Let's say a puddle wakes up one morning and thinks, "This is an interesting world I find myself in – an interesting hole I find myself in – fits me rather neatly, doesn't it? In fact it fits me staggeringly well, must have been made to have me in it!"' - Douglas Adams

But I can believe that life has meaning and be an atheist at the same time.

Or rather, if one doesn't believe in God, what can give your life meaning?

A sensible answer could be to live your life to the fullest. Or to use all your talents towards the betterment of mankind. Interestingly, this is how I think insects define their lives' meaning. The African termite's hives are built over multiple generations. A termite's sole reason for existence is to ensure

that the hive survives. That goes from worker to queen. Imagine the progress possible if humans lived with a similar philosophy.

So, where does evolution fit into the picture?

You decide. But evolution will still remain a natural phenomenon. Now before all the creationists work themselves into a fury, the keyword in the previous sentence is natural. Evolution should not be forced by killing people considered weak, dumb, ugly or some other characteristic dreamed up by despots.

Okay, but what is life exactly?

Another thing you have to decide for yourself, since everyone has their own definition, I won't bother. Just know that though I'm of the opinion that life is meaningless, don't assume that I think that life isn't precious.

One last question, are you just making all this stuff up?

Yes, pretty much.

Evolution - True or False

Written by [guardian angel](#)
Saturday, 27 October 2007

This is something that seems to be rearing its ugly little head every time we turn on the TV. Discovery and National Geographic reporters, scientists and philosophers keep on referring to evolution as if it was a proven fact. The other thing that concerns me is that it is now part of the scholastic system - being taught as a science when in fact it is still a theory and if a child questions it, then it is often assumed that the child has a fanatical background or the child is being rebellious. If you are not able to question this then is it not true that evolution is being punted as a religion and not an opportunity to prove its worth. This most probably would sound like religious fanaticism however dont for one minute think i dont believe in scientific fact . But if we as a society are born and bred in truth, then we should also question the truth of evolution. This is not to say that science is not true, but proven science is true. Everything else would be either false or unproven.

Question then, it is assumed that you cannot prove there is the existence of a God. Yet you look around you and there is enough proof of God. Let me give an analogy. If you found a car in the middle of a bush, your immediate reaction would not be that after years of evolution the car appeared. You would naturally assume that there was an intelligent design behind that car and that some idiot parked it there. In other words you would not assume the car appeared there by chance. Yet we assume that all the beauty and perfection around us appeared because of pure chance (evolution).

I am sure it would not come as some surprise that i believe in God but the strange thing is that evolutionists who believe in an unproven phenomenon are ready to criticise those who can easily prove the existence of God. Theory vs Fact. A few simple questions regarding evolution - how does an organism know that by evolving an eye, it would be better for it when it has never had an eye before. To build on this argument, an eye has to come as a whole - for a part of an eye has no value to an organism.

How many organisms do we see with half an eye. Do you get the picture here?