

Lesson 5: Darwinism and Evolution

God created living things with the ability to live, reproduce, and thrive within the environments He made for them. Variation is part of that created capacity.

Evolutionary claims rely on interpretive assumptions that go **far beyond** what the evidence itself can demonstrate.

Key Scriptures

- Genesis 1:11-12, 20-27
- Psalm 100:3
- Romans 5:12
- 1 Corinthians 15:21-22

Darwin's Misguided Conclusions

- Interpretations based on observations within a **new** worldview.
- Made with no understanding of genetics, the cell, DNA, etc.
- **Universal common ancestry:** The separate claim that all life descended from one original form.
- Claimed that future works would provide evidence.

Animals Thrive in Their Environments

Creatures do not continually “struggle for existence”. They thrive; live, reproduce, cooperate, and fill their environments.

- **Variation:** Differences within a population.
- **Adaptation:** Traits suited to an environment.
- **Natural selection:** Existing variations become more or less common.

Examining the Claims of Evolution

- While **fossils** are evidence, faces, skin, hair, posture, and death scenes are reconstructions.
 - (e.g. *lucy*): representation driven by artistic motivations.
- **Simply people:** Neanderthals, Denisovans, *Homo erectus* were humans, created in God's image. Not steps or stages from early apes to humans.

DNA Misrepresentations in Humans and Primates

- **False claims:** "Humans and chimps are **98.8%** identical"
- "**1-2%** Neanderthal DNA" tracks inherited population segments... not a degree of humanity.
- **Neanderthal-to-present-human** similarity: approximately **99.7%**.
- Present-**human-to-reference-human** similarity: even **99.6%** under NHGRI's broader comparison, is expected.

Questions to Consider

1. How is variation different from universal common ancestry?
2. What separates fossil evidence from artistic reconstruction?
3. Why can one DNA percentage mislead?