

The Machinery of Evolution, Part II- Mutations

II. Mutations

What are mutations? A mutation is "any change in the sequence of DNA base pairs in the genome of an organism. (Patterson, 242). And what is a genome? A genome is "the complete set of genetic material (DNA) of any cell in an organism." (Patterson, 240).

It is important to understand that a mutation is never purposeful or something which propels a species in any positive direction, whatsoever. Mutations are random deformities in the genetic make-up, which serve to corrupt the intended pattern of whatever is being formed. They are products of the fall; deformities that mar the intended pattern for a living organism. For example, when a butterfly is born with an extra wing, that is not evolutionary progress; that is not the butterfly selecting for an adaptable advantage; that is merely a duplicating defect within the original coding process of the butterfly. Something has gone wrong in the process; it has been corrupted in some sense, and the butterfly is worse, not better, because of it.

Mutations, in fact, never, ever add information. In other words, a random mutation never turns a lizard scale gene into a bird feather gene. Rather, it actually serves to corrupt the lizard scale gene, by corrupting the original code, within the base pairs of the genome. In fact, even if such a change in the DNA code could take place (which it cannot and has not), there are regulators in place, which would never, and could never, process that code into something beyond the scope of that created kind. You can put the materials that make shoes into a coffee machine, but it will, at best, try to make coffee with that material. It will not and cannot suddenly decide to make shoes. A mutation can only work within the sphere of the information that is available. It cannot turn wood into metal or glass into aluminum. The information just does not exist to allow for this. What mutations can do is provide more or less of what is available within the created kind; or it could defile and corrupt what is normally expected.

But for evolutionists, this haphazard, disorderly, gene distorting reality, can somehow, over millions of years, gradually produce advantageous parts, enabling a species to adapt to a specific environment by virtually becoming something else. And so, mindless, random mutations, eventually get it right, and bring about orderly, advantageous limbs and abilities. In the real world, however, while mutations can and do take place, they are usually to a defect (or neutral at best), always involve a loss of information, and never, ever, convert one kind into another. A crocodile may grow an extra row of teeth, but they will still be crocodile teeth, and nothing more.

a- Bacterial resistance to antibiotics- They already exist, but are selected for, over time, in the same way as our cat example above. Increase in selected kind takes place and resistance increases. [Again, a loss of information]

b- Sickle Cell Anemia and Malaria- Malaria attaches to healthy cells; nothing to do with evolution. Note the horrible consequence of sickle cell anemia. Selected for in African climates--the survivors.

III. Other Weighty Factors

1. Convergent Evolution- is "used as a way to explain away homologies [similarities] that appear in organisms that aren't supposed to be closely related" (Ex: Striking similarity between dogs and the Tasmanian tiger--a marsupial). (Patterson, 72).

2. Irreducible Complexity- Systems where various parts are dependent upon each other for functionality. Would have had to have evolved simultaneously (Ex: The "blood-clotting reaction"-- Patterson, 84).

3. "Evolutionists predict the presence of billions of transitional life forms that have existed in earth's history. Despite the presence of 250,000 fossil species, clear transitional forms, which would bolster evolutionary theory, are virtually absent." (Patterson, 74).

Conclusion

What do natural selection and mutations actually prove? Exactly what the Scriptures teach.

1- God created different proto-kinds, producing several species, allowing the different species to survive in different environments. Because of the fall, every living creature ultimately dies. Environmental hardships, food shortages and predatory opponents, are some of the means that God uses to manifest and fulfill the curse, which man brought upon the world.

2- Mutations are genetic defects, which serve to damage, corrupt and defile a living organism. If they provide some means of protection in any sense (Sickle Cell Anemia and Malaria example), they inflict a painful disease at the same time.

3- Colossians 1-2

AMEN!!!