

# FAITH & FREEDOM

## LESSON 6: DARWIN DELUSION

### Introduction

We live in tumultuous and rapidly changing times. We might with King David ask the question, "If the foundations be destroyed, what can the righteous do?" (Psalm 11:3) I submit there are a number of things the righteous can do. We need a Biblical understanding of the events we are witnessing and the evolution of prevalent ideologies. We need to not be distracted from God's mission for us during these last days. We need to stand on the front lines and not sit on the sidelines in silence.

### Darwinism

When Satan deceived Eve in Genesis 3, he peddled humanism, which assigns primary importance to humankind and downplays or eliminates God altogether. Many of the most destructive ideologies are just offshoots of humanism. Without a creator God, the existence of life must be explained. Although evolutionary ideas date from antiquity, it was Charles Darwin's 1859 work, *On the Origin of Species*, that purported to give it a scientific backing.

1. **Darwinism Defined:** Evolution in its fullest sense means that life developed from nonliving matter and over time developed by purely natural means. Darwin proposed that the mechanism of evolution was natural selection acting on variations. Organisms with chance variation that gave them an advantage for survival would tend to survive and reproduce, and if that variation was inherited the species would change over great periods of time.

— There has been tremendous progress in several scientific fields since Darwin's 1859 book.

— **Neo-Darwinism** is the theory of the day, which modifies Darwinism explaining the origin of different species through chance genetic mutations and a version of natural selection that amplifies the fittest genes.

2. **Foundations:** How does Neo-Darwinism attack foundations established in the Bible, especially Genesis 1-3?

— Where does God fit in the picture? And what are the implications for the Genesis creation account?

— Is humanity made in the image of God?

— What are the implications for marriage / family?

— What are the implications for the existence of "sin"?

3. **Irreducible Complexity:** "A single system composed of several well-matched, interacting parts that contribute to the basic function, wherein the removal of any one of the parts causes the system to effectively cease functioning." (Michael Behe) Such a system cannot be produced in small steps over time. Numerous molecular machines in cells are irreducibly complex.

4. **Intelligent Design:** This is the conclusion that what appears to be a purposeful arrangement of parts is design not chance.

5. **Public and Private Face:** Even among evolutionary scientists there is increasing division. Because of the complete lack of fossil evidence, Jay Gould proposed in the early 1970s "punctuated equilibrium." Rather than slow evolution through chance mutations over extended periods of time, he proposed concentrated, rapid changes in isolated populations. This eliminated the embarrassment of the fossil record and jived with the so-called Cambrian explosion (how the fossil record seems to show an explosion or "biological big bang" of complex life over a 10 to 25 million year period starting about 540 million years ago).

— numerous other competing theories today, but publicly mainstream science insists Neo-Darwinism is fact