Fossil Evidence Evaluated By Robert S. Westcott

We have discussed the mechanics of genetics and the specificity of producing the DNA dictated organisms from the basic 20 amino acids. These amino acids are placed in the exact position by DNA to comprise the puzzle pieces that become puzzle pieces to successively larger picture puzzles until the whole organism is completed according to its specific kind. The master molecule, DNA, determines exactly which organism will be produced. This process continues from life to life with very few variations in the exact genetic instructions.

Now we will turn to an inspection of fossil evidences of past life and objectively evaluate whether the history of organisms preserved as fossils supports the evolutionist claims. How did life first come into being? Do the records of fossils actually support the theory of organic evolution? What are the limitations to the production of new forms of life? If there are limitations, how far do the mechanisms of evolution extend in producing the variations that we see in fossils and in living plants and animals?

If the doctrines of evolution are true and all living organisms evolved from some common ancestor that first became "life" in some primeval sea sometime during the early ages of the Earth's history, then one can expect a consistent record of the gradual change from the simple to the complex organisms as the successive layers of the earth are studied chronologically. One of the proponents of the theory of evolution states his case this way when discussing the fossil evidence.

"Fossil remains begin to prove beyond doubt that organisms had lived on the Earth much earlier than the believers in special creation had thought. Furthermore, the fossil records revealed a wonderfully consistent trend: in general, the older the fossils, the simpler they tended to be in structure. The complex forms tended to be more recent in origin.

This discovery pointed to a process of gradual development of complexity. For example, when geologists examined the sides of a gorge, such as the Grand Canyon, they found fossils of complex plants and animals only near the top. As they examined fossils at greater depth in the gorge, the fossils were of simpler types. Proceeding toward the bottom, where the older rocks were, was like taking a reverse trip in structural complexity through the plant and animal kingdoms" (McElroy, p. 21).

1. The summary of the argument for the theory of evolution based on the fossil evidence is as follows:

a. **The Uniformatarian Theory** is that all natural processes in geology have progressed at relatively the same rates since the beginning of the earth through natural processes. Those who believe in evolution, therefore, believe that the time element in relationships between any geological events can be measured through the length of time

it takes to see the same effect in the geology of the earth today. Therefore, if you can measure the deposition in the geological formation and the rate of erosion in the rock at the bottom of a canyon, and can divide that time increment into the depth of the canyon, you will be able to determine the age of the canyon-forming process.

- b. This measuring process, if valid, would also **make it possible to date** any fossil found in the rocks in the side of the canyon.
- c. There is supposed to be a gradual and successive development in the fossil record as one progresses from the ancient to the recent rock strata. This fossil record is supposed to demonstrate the gradual transition of life forms from their ancestral fossils to the modern forms of life encountered today.
- d. Fossils found in successive rock strata are supposed to become **more complex** and larger as they are encountered in more recent rock strata.
- e. The fossil record should include **transitional forms** of life that show a clear development of existing families of animals from other ancient forms.
- f. Fossils are supposed to be found in **the geologic rock strata** representing the age in which they were supposed to exist.

2. Evaluation of the fossil evidence.

How consistent are these records left as fossils? Do they really demonstrate a gradual change of living organisms where more complex organisms were produced from less complex ancestors as one might expect if the theory of organic evolution were true? Let us look at the observable facts and re-evaluate this argument to see if the fossil evidence from fossils does indeed support this argument.

- a. **The Uniformatarian Theory.** This theory declares that all natural processes in geology have progressed at relatively the same rates since the beginning of the earth through natural processes. Around Mount St. Helens deposits were rapid and deep and the erosion of canyons was almost immediate. The more rapid the deposition of silt, the softer will be the silt and consequent rock. The softer the rock the more rapid will be the erosion. If erosion occurs before the deposit can harden into rock, any water flow or wind abrasion will wear the rock away faster. This evidence contradicts the evolutionist application of the uniformatarian theory.
- **b. Circuitous reasoning.** The method of determining the ages of fossils is based on circuitous reasoning. Evolutionists reason like this: (1) One can determine the age of a fossil by the age of the strata of rock in which the fossil is found. This can be translated to mean "Dinosaurs lived in the Mesozoic Period and became extinct toward the end of the Cretaceous Period". (2) If you know the age of a fossil, you can use the fossil to date and identify the rock strata in which the fossil was found. This can be translated to mean "If you find dinosaur fossils, you can date the strata and identify it as Mesozoic, either

Triassic, Jurassic or Cretaceous". (3) Fossils are not found in rock strata other than in the strata in which they belong. This can also be translated to say "Non-Mesozoic fossils found with dinosaurs do not exist. The hominid and large mammal fossil evidences discovered in Cretaceous rock strata with dinosaur foot prints do not exist and must be explained by some other means."

- **c.** Geologic rock strata are seldom found in the "proper sequence" which would support the evolutionary hypothesis.
- (1). <u>Incomplete sequences</u>. The rock strata are seldom found in complete sequential formations. The normal pattern of deposition is that any geological formation will contain incomplete sequences of the geological strata,
- (2). <u>Out of order strata</u>. Geological strata are also seldom found in the proper sequence. Fossil strata often are found out of order below other strata which are supposed to have been deposited before the strata being studied.
- (3). <u>Upside-down strata sequences</u>. As is the case with the Lewis Overthrust, many times the fossil sequences are found in completely reverse order to what is to be expected if the theory of organic evolution were to be substantiated. It is hard to explain thousands of square miles of rock formations being completely upside down without geological evidence of upheaval.

d. Fossils are sometimes found in strata which are supposedly older than the fossil species.

- (1). Carboniferous grasses such as Calamites are often found in some Mississippian strata. Calamites are tall grass-like plants that have thick stems, many larger than corn stalks.
- (2). Modern horses are found in strata that occurred before the strata containing its ancestral horses. It is difficult to demonstrate that the offspring existed prior to its parents.
- (3). Fossils of modern man appear in strata that predates "ancestral man". Homo habilis Skull number KNM-ER 1470, a relatively modern type human skull was a near contemporary of Lucy, an Australopithecus afarensis, one of our supposed earliest ancestors. The other Australopithecines were above this strata where Skull number KNM-ER 1470 was found.
- (4). Human footprints have been found in the same strata with dinosaurs and trilobites. Human footprints and an assumed human tooth was found in 1911 by Charles Moss in a Cretaceous river bed in Glen Rose, Texas. These footprints were witnessed by James Ryles, professor of geology from Texas A. & M. University(Westcott, 1964). The footprints are mostly eroded, but vestiges of these still exist and many of the footprints were photographed, and plaster casts taken. An incisor tooth was also found within 14

inches of one of the hominid footprints and identified by a dental surgeon as human. Much of this data can be viewed and studied today through the Creation Evidence Museum of Glen Rose, Texas and through slides and interviews of eyewitnesses and field notes.

e. Unchanged fossils.

Fossil forms do not always demonstrate the evolutionary development. The exceptions to the pattern raise serious questions concerning the validity of the evolutionary argument.

- (1). A simple study of any paleontology text will demonstrate that many fossils have not changed at all since they first appear in the fossil record. The Pleistocene strata of Florida yields many specimens of unchanged Mollusks fossils, shark species, and sea lions
- (2). In many instances, it is possible to show that fossil families lost complexity instead of gaining structural complexity. Angel wing clams can be found in the Pleistocene strata of north Florida.

e. The lack of transitional fossils.

There is an amazing **lack of transitional fossils** (missing links) showing that the sudden appearance of animal phyla, classes and orders is not an artificial problem but a real problem for those who believe in the theory of organic evolution. This sudden appearance of animal groups tends to support the creationist viewpoint from a scientific position.

(1). Phyla. Concerning the appearance of the phyla Sarcodina (single celled amoeboid organisms), Porifera (sponges), Coelenterata (jelly fish and anemones), Bryozoa, Brachiopoda, Mollusca (clams, snails and cephalopods), Echinodermata (star fish and sea urchins) and Arthropoda (insects, spiders, crabs, etc.). A. Lee McAlester in his book, The History of Life states:

"Unfortunately, there is no fossil record of the origin of these phyla, for they are already clearly separate and distinct when they first appear as fossils" (McAlester, p. 53)

- (2) <u>Classes</u>. This same author states concerning the appearance of the classes of animals: "We have seen that the phyla are already clearly differentiated when they first appear in the fossil records. A similar pattern exists within the classes" (McAlester, p. 55).
- (3) Between <u>Algae</u> and <u>Trachophytes</u>. When speaking of the fossil records of the origins of many plants, this author states: "Unfortunately there is no fossil record of the transition between the algal ancestor and the first land-dwelling trachophytes." (McAlester, p. 65).

- (4) <u>Arthropods</u> and terrestrial <u>Gastropods</u>. "Unfortunately, the first fossil record of insects, arachnids (spiders), and terrestrial gastropods (snails) is too spotty to document the transition from their water-dwelling ancestors; instead, these rarely preserved groups are already fully developed terrestrial forms when they first appear in the fossil record" (McAlester, p. 69).
- (5) <u>Vertebrates</u> certainly arose from some sort of invertebrate ancestor, but as is so often the case, the exact ancestral group is uncertain. The fossil record provides no clues because the earliest fossil vertebrates, bone fragments of primitive fish found in Middle Ordovician rocks, are already fully differentiated from their invertebrate ancestors" (p. 69). "Although there is no fossil evidence for the origin of the vertebrates, the history of the group, once it was differentiated, is documented by an unusually complete record. The earliest vertebrates, from which all others arose, were primitive fishes." (p. 72). This author then comments on this "<u>Unusually complete record</u>" by saying: "Although <u>no transitional fossils are known</u>, Placoderms, the first jaw-bearing fishes, almost certainly originated from the agnaths." (McAlester, p. 75).

"Both groups (fishes and sharks) appear in the Devonian Period and both <u>probably</u> arose from the placoderms, although, once again, intermediate fossils are lacking." (McAlester, p. 76).

"When the bony fishes first appeared in the Devonian Period they were already differentiated into two groups that were to have divergent evolutionary roles." (McAlester, p. 77).

"The crocodiles, another group that originated from the thecodonts, have apparently always been specialized, semi-aquatic carnivores." (McAlester, p. 111).

(6). <u>Angiosperms</u>. "One of the most perplexing problems in the entire evolutionary record of plants concerns the origin of the angiosperms (flowering plants).... The certain record of the group begins suddenly in the lower Cretaceous deposits. Moreover, many of the major angiosperm subgroups are already differentiated when they first appear in the fossil record. This fact suggests that the group had a considerable pre-Cretaceous history that, for some reason, is not recorded in the fossil record." (McAlester, p. 100).

All these quotations are from one author, and more important, from an author who believed and taught the theory of organic evolution as a professor of geology at Yale University. Such documentation may be multiplied many times over by searching any honestly written textbook on the subject of paleontology and fossils.

f. Proposed transitional fossils.

It would be necessary to have transitional species in order for a gradual evolution of the complex forms of life to have taken place. The best place to witness these transitional species would be in the study of fossils. Some fossils have been proposed as these transitional fossils that are supposed to demonstrate that there were transitions between different forms of life as evolution occurred. If macro evolution were true we would be able to study millions of fossils that demonstrated the gradual transition between modern living plants and animals and their fossil ancestors. This is not the case. As previously noted, transitional fossils are rare if nonexistent. Some of these proposed transitional fossils need to be discussed at this time.

- (1) Coelacanth. Coelacanths are lobe finned fish in Devonian Strata that were once considered the missing link between fish and land dwelling animals. The fact that their pectoral and anal fins were on stalks was argued to be the forerunner of developing limbs for walking on land. If the truth were told, the coelacanths are a living species that are caught today off the coast of Africa, and are virtually unchanged from their fossil ancestors.
- (2) **Tiktaalik.** Another lobed fin fish has been discovered on Ellesmere Island in upper Canada in 2006 (Nature, April, 2006). Tiktaalik is a genus of extinct sarcopterygian (lobe-finned) fishes from the late Devonian period. This fossil fish has many features akin to those of tetrapods (four-legged animals), Unfortunately the fossils consisted of only the head and the upper part of the body, and the animal more closely resembles crocodiles than fish. Much more study and future finds of this "fish" must be found to answer the unanswered questions so easily generalized by evolutionists.

(2) **Feathered or furry dinosaur**.

In 1995 a feathered dinosaur, **Sinosauropteryx**, was discovered in China (American Museum of Natural History Press Release, April 25, 2001). It greatly resembles Archaeopterix, a primitive bird found in Germany. Since birds are found in the same strata, it becomes clear that the birds did not spring from the "feathered dinosaur" but had already existed as a contemporary with this animal.

g. The sudden appearance of phyla, classes and orders.

Animals and plants suddenly appearing in profusion in the fossil record supports the creationist position, not the evolutionary argument.

Concerning this phenomenon of sudden appearance, James R. Beerbower states in his book, <u>Search for the Past</u>:

"Many of the major animal types, phyla, classes, and orders, pop abruptly into the fossil record. Their ancestry, if known at all, is vague, and they are much more advanced than the presumed ancestral types. So far as the fossil record goes, their evolution was extremely fast" (Beerbower, p. 169).

"One paleontologist, Schindewolf, has recently argued that such transformations were abrupt, and, therefore, the origin of the categories was equally abrupt.... Since fossil

evidence is lacking in many such cases, proof or disproof is difficult." This view is known as "Punctuated Equilibrium", which states that evolution continues slowly over a long period of time and then manifests itself suddenly and dramatically as new life forms and species suddenly appear in the sphere of life. Concerning the sudden appearance of fossil animal and plant types note also the quotations from A. Lee McAlester in his book The History of Life, pages 12, 13, 19, 20, 37, 53, and 60.

h. Fossils that are out of proper evolutionary position.

There are many instances where fossils have been found in strata out of their proper evolutionary position. Some fossils are found in earlier rock strata that were supposedly deposited before the animal or plant was assumed to have evolved. Other fossils are found in strata with animals that were supposedly their ancestors, or which were theoretically extinct long before the animals or plants in question were purportedly in existence.

- (1). Tracks of a giant ground sloth or bear, a sabertooth tiger, and man tracks were found in a Cretaceous rock strata with dinosaur tracks in the Paluxy River bed in Glen Rose, Texas. Dinosaurs supposedly became extinct over 63 million years ago (Westcott, G. & Westcott, R. 1964). The giant ground sloth and the sabertooth tiger supposedly appeared in the Miocene Epoch, about 25 million years ago. Man was not supposed to appear until about three million years ago. It must be mentioned that all of these large mammals were supposedly equally out of place in the Cretaceous period, since the largest mammal of this period was presumed to be no bigger than a common house-cat. The dinosaurs were supposed to have eaten all larger mammals, keeping the selective size of mammals small.
- (2). A series of shoe prints walking through a trilobite bed was found by Joseph Meister in Arrowhead Springs, Utah. Trilobites supposedly became extinct before the Triassic Period, 230 million years ago. One complete shoe print was found with a portion of a matching toe print of a shoe in the previous step in the same strata along with trilobites, and stepping on trilobites, indicating that man could have been in existence and walking in shoes during the same period that contained trilobites.
- (3) A hammer was found imbedded in Ordovician rock in 1934 in the Llano Uplift near London, Texas. This artifact was submitted to Batelle Laboratories for metallurgical analysis. Batelle Laboratory was the same scientific laboratory contracted to analyze the moon rocks for NASA. The laboratory report states that there was no carbon content in the iron, which would have been present with any iron smelted in the past several thousand years. There was no iridium content, which would have been present if the metal was from meteoric origin. There was no silicon and no nickel content. The metal also has a 2.6% chlorine content as though it had been submersed in salt water. There was also a 0.74% sulfur content. This is a most unusual situation since this indicates that the metal in the hammer was produced by a technology different from any known historical or modern means of steel production. The hammer handle was agatized or turned to stone with the exception of a small portion that had been coalified or turned

to coal. The iron of the hammer had been charred on the outside of the hammer head, but had not rusted. This was in a matrix with other Ordovician fossils, and there appeared to be no interruption of the Ordovician rock within which this fossil was found. Some claimed that this hammer must have been dropped into a crack in the rock by a miner, and that the sand blew in covering the hammer and gradually turning to rock. The rock was of the same texture as the surrounding rock, with no interruption or discontinuity with the surrounding rock. This hammer was definitely a man-made artifact, and completely out of place in the Ordovician strata supposedly dated at around 480 million years before the present. (Mackay, p. 14-16. & Dr. Peter Deuker, Usa Metallurgy Reports.)

(4). The discovery of angiosperm fossil pollen grains in the Cambrian suggested that a further study of pollen grains in the Grand Canyon would be a valuable study (Leclereq, p. 109-113). In the study of the Grand Canyon Burdick found fossil pollen, both Gymnosperm (cone bearing trees) and Angiosperm (flowering trees) in the Hakati shale which is supposedly Pre-Cambrian, long before the land plants were supposed to have evolved, and in a period when the largest plants were supposed to have been small single celled water dwelling algae. Clifford Burdick summarizes this data by stating, "Finding of spores at least closely related to pines in the Pre Cambrian makes it extremely difficult to visualize any evolutionary development of these specialized plants. The undoubted occurrence of pollen of flowering plants is even more difficult to explain in usually accepted evolutionary concepts." (Burdick, C. 1964, 1966).

i. Lost complexity.

In many instances, it is possible to show that fossil families lost complexity instead of gaining structural complexity. For instance, Pleistocene Angel Wing clams have a more complex bivalve hinge than the modern Angel Wing clams. There were many thousands of organisms that were more complex and larger in past geological history than are found in modern day descendents.

j. Manufactured fossil evidence.

Although neither proving nor disproving the evolutionary argument, it is important to note that several attempts have been made to strengthen the evolutionary evidence through manufactured fossils. It must be admitted that zealots on both the evolutionary and creationist sides of the debate have occasionally manufactured fake evidence to support their position. It is important that any evidence be carefully evaluated and that only the authentic evidence be accepted. All truth is God's truth. One should not try to strengthen an argument for what is believed to be "the truth" from falsehood. On the other hand, it is possible to see where the evolutionary position was seriously weakened through the acceptance of false evidence. The evolutionary argument was further weakened because this false evidence was taught over decades even though the immediate findings of scientists through empirical forensic evidence indicated that the manufactured evidence was faked immediately after the time of discovery.

(1) The Piltdown Man, Eoanthropus dawsoni.

The Piltdown man was discovered in a gravel pit in Piltdown, England, over a seven year period around 1912 by Charles Dawson. The evidence consisted of four small fragments of human skull, two teeth and a small segment of jaw bone. When this "fossil evidence" was first introduced, an international board of scientists scrutinized the bone fragments. The cranial fragments were definitely found to be human and drill samples showed the bone to be agatized or partially replaced with rock as is the case in true The jaw fragments and teeth were definitely reported to be of a different individual, chimpanzee or orangutan and was modern, and the truly fossilized cranial samples were unrelated. The drill samples demonstrated that the jaw samples were modern and totally unrelated to the fossilized cranial fragments. Furthermore, these jaw fragments were stained to look like the fossil human bone fragments and the teeth had been filed to make them match the human fragments. This was reported by reputable scientists who adhered to the theory of evolution in the year that the Piltdown Man was introduced. (Nelson, 1927) In spite of this evidence that the Piltdown Man was a fake, the scientific community taught the Piltdown Man as scientific evidence for the theory of evolution until 1953, when Dawson admitted the hoax in his will. (c.f.: Fix, 1984, p. 12-14).

(2). The Nebraska Man, Hesperopithecus heraldicooki.

This fossil of Nebraska Man was discovered in a cave in Nebraska in 1922 by Harold Cook, an amateur archaeologist. The extent of the evidence was a single tooth which Mr. Cook submitted to the professors of the department of anthropology at the University of Chicago, since he believed that the fossilized tooth appeared to be the tooth of a human being. The distinguished scholars of this prestigious institution scrutinized the tooth, and concluded that it was indeed the oldest evidence of human habitation seen as yet on the North American Continent. These professors were thrilled that the North American Continent was linked at last with the evolution of man. They studied the tooth, and through their exact science, reconstructed the person from whom the tooth originally They placed this "ancestor" on display and named him Hesperopithecus heroldicookii in honor of Harold Cook, its discoverer. This illustrious ancestor was introduced as part of the evidence for evolution at the Scopes "monkey trial" in 1925 at Dayton, Tennessee. Harold Cook was so pleased with his new found fame that he decided to take the time to excavate the entire Nebraska cave in 1927 to see if he could find the rest of the "Nebraska man". When the evidence was finally found it was a profound embarrassment to the scholarly community, especially to the anthropologists that had fabricated the "Nebraska man" from the single tooth. The tooth, it was discovered, did not belong to a fossil human ancestor after all. It belonged to an extinct type of wild pig. These scholars who tried to manufacture evidence for the evolution of man from the tooth of a pig in reality had succeeded only in making monkeys out of themselves. (Fix, 1984, p. 11)

k. Polystrate fossils.

The evolutionists hold to a doctrine called the uniformatarian theory. As previously discussed, this dogma states that all natural processes continue at the same rate as they have since the beginning. By measuring the rate of deposition of sediment in natural processes today, through applying the uniformitarian theory, evolutionists judge that sedimentation occurs at a slow rate. If fossils can be found that are covered vertically through many strata, the existence of polystrate fossils would support the Biblical record of floods rather than the idea of gradual sedimentation.

- (1) Polystrate grass fossils. When hunting fossils, one usually finds the fossil grasses and other plants compressed in between layers of rock. Occasionally you can find grass blades that will be preserved vertically through several layers of strata. I have personally seen grass blades fossilized up through about five inches of rock strata. Obviously the grass blade could not last long enough to be buried through five inches of gradual silt deposit. An investigation of any coal mine will let you find your own polystrate grass fossils. Finds of this nature indicate rapid deposition instead of gradual deposition at the rate witnessed today (R. Westcott, 1965).
- (2) Polystrate tree fossils. In Germany there was a fossilized tree extending vertically up through several meters of rock strata. Many other polystrate fossil trees are known. Again we must recognize that a tree can not last long enough to be buried through gradual sedimentation. The average dead tree lasts only a few years. According to the uniformaterian theory, the tree would have had to stand for many thousands of years to be buried. Yet the tree was buried through many layers of strata without showing decay. The sedimentary layers must have been successively deposited in a short period of time. (Rupke, N. 1966. pp. 16-37).
- (3) The fossil whale in diatomaceous earth. "The <u>Chemical and Engineering News</u> carried a report describing a Baleen whale estimated to be 80 feet in length which has been found fossilized standing on end in the diatomaceous earth beds near Lampoc, California." This find was also reported in <u>the Christian Evidences Digest</u>, about 1981. In actuality, the whale was not standing on its tail relative to the strata due to the strata being tilted. About 30 other whales have been found in the diatomaceous deposits of Lompoc California. These whales are still polystrate since they are embedded in strata that are like pages in a book, about 25 layers per inch. (Westcott, R., 1992).

1. No unclassifiable fossils.

So far, no fossil has ever been found that cannot be classified with some living family of living organisms. It seems to indicate that once classes or families of organisms are present that there are variations in micro-mutation, but that the classes or families are stable and reproduce "after its kind".

m. Living fossils.

There are thousands of living fossils that have been discovered recently. Once considered extinct or missing links in the evolutionary chain, there are thousands of animals and plants that are living today that are unchanged from their fossil forms.

(1) Coelacanths.

Coelacanths, as mentioned earlier, are lobed-finned fish that were once considered the missing link between fish and land dwelling animals. The fact that their pectoral and anal fins were on stalks was argued to be the forerunner of developing limbs for walking on land. In 1938, Marjorie Courtney-Latimer saw a fish that was brought in on a deep sea trawler in Madagascar and recognized it as a fish that was considered extinct. Since than many of these coelacanths have been caught, and many have been viewed and photographed in their own habitat, from 50 feet to around 800 feet deep (BBC News, Friday, December 1, 2000, UK).

(2) Living dinosaurs.

The Natives in Africa, where I grew up, spoke of jungle animals that they identified from pictures of sauropods, alliosaurs, cerotopsians, and stigosaur like animals. The natives killed and ate a small sauropod in 1954 because it kept tearing down their fish nets that they needed to feed their tribe.

While traveling down the River in the French Congo, going between villages, missionary Joe Ellis almost ran into a sauropod swimming across the river. He cut the engine on his 30 foot canoe and just drifted, watching the beast swim across the river until it climbed out on the other bank and disappeared into the jungle. He stated that the animal was longer than his canoe, that it swam with its neck straight in the water with the top of its head just showing, that its tail was straight out behind it and was not used for swimming as with crocodiles, and that its body rose and sank in the water as though it were swimming as an elephant swims, using its legs (Ellis, J. Interview with Missionary, 1996).

When considering the mechanisms of genetics in conjuncture with the facts found in the study of fossils, we have adequate reason to question the customary teachings concerning the significance of these areas of science. Enough data has been found, collated, and presented to give adequate opportunity to re-evaluate this argument and to produce logical alternative explanations. Therefore, we can reach the following conclusion through the presentation of the evidence collected and discussed.

CONCLUSIONS

- 1. Whereas, the geologic record is seldom found in the "proper sequence".
 - A. Incomplete sequences,
 - B. Out of order strata,
 - C. Upside-down strata,
- 2. Whereas, fossils are often found in strata before their supposed ancestors.
- 3. Whereas, fossils do not always demonstrate evolutionary development.
 - A. Unchanged fossils,
 - B. Lost complexity,
 - C. Lack of transitional fossils,
- 4. Whereas, fossils phyla, classes, orders and families appear suddenly, fully formed all over the earth at the same time.
- 5. Whereas, there are many fossils found that are out of their evolutionary position in strata.
- 6. Whereas, polystrate fossils demonstrate rapid deposition, not slow, gradual deposition of fossil strata.
- 7. Whereas, all fossils can be classified with living phyla, classes, orders and families.
- 8. And whereas, there are many animals and plants considered extinct that are presently alive.

We must therefore conclude that the fossil evidence does not support the theory of organic macro-evolution through random natural processes. The evidence from fossils is also consistent with the other areas of scientific evidence that have been discussed, including astrophysics and genetics. The evidence supports the Biblical account of creation. We concede that micro-evolution is demonstrated by fossil remains, but micro-evolution does not account for macro-evolution. There is still not enough time to randomly develop the complex DNA eight billion component double binary mathematical formulae for all life as we know it through chance combinations of elements and molecules.

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