

## **Evolutionists and Creationists Often Agree**

There are many points of agreement on natural selection

*Mark Bergemann*

Christians can be certain that the universe is only thousands of years old, that birds did not descend from dinosaurs, and that people did not descend from ape-like creatures. Our certainty is based on our faith that God's Word is true.

Many parts of evolution are incompatible with the Christian faith:

Christians who accept evolution place their Christian faith in jeopardy. False teachings about creation are just like all other false teachings, they lead away from Jesus. They are extremely dangerous to a person's Christian faith. ... Evolution denies the doctrines of sin, the law, and death. Evolution dispenses with the need for a Creator. Evolution attacks the gospel and the need for a Savior.<sup>1</sup>

That said, there is much in evolution theory with which a creationist can agree. The Christian apologist must keep this in mind, especially when ministering to those who are tempted by evolution to believe in millions of years of common descent. We must avoid the impression that we reject all of evolution, as some parts of evolution are true.

Books written by evolutionists to defend evolution against creationist claims so often describe the science of evolution in ways with which a creationist can agree. So much of what evolutionists see as the proof of evolution are scientific conclusions which do not go against Scripture. Evolutionists regularly discuss natural selection in ways that conform with a young earth and created kinds. Then evolutionists move to claims that go against Scripture. Evolutionists, in essence, claim that since natural selection can produce new species within each Biblical kind, that proves that natural selection can also produce new Biblical kinds.

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<sup>1</sup> Mark Bergemann, "Did God Use Evolution to Create?" (Paper presented to the Metro-Milwaukee Pastors' Conference meeting, Nain Lutheran Church, West Allis WI, October 10, 2016). pages 4, 5.  
[www.LutheranScience.org/DidGodUseEvolution](http://www.LutheranScience.org/DidGodUseEvolution) (Accessed April 8, 2019)

## **New Species of Finches Descended from Finches. Therefore, Birds Descended from Dinosaurs.**

The *LSI Journal* has devoted many articles to evaluating best-selling books by famous evolutionists like Bill Nye and Richard Dawkins, and also books written by the very influential National Academy of Sciences. These books by evolutionists explain evolution theory, defend it against the claims of creationists, and condemn those who teach creation. I have noticed a common thread woven throughout these books, often presented as the core reason why evolution is true. That common claim is the one just described in the preceding paragraph: Since natural selection can produce new species within each Biblical kind, that proves that natural selection can also produce new Biblical kinds. Now an evolutionist never uses those words. They simply devote entire chapters to example after example of a new finch species descending from other finches, or a cabbage plant being cultivated from a wild mustard plant (see page 31). Then they literally say something like, “Since artificial selection and natural selection produced all these changes in a relatively short time, imagine how much change would happen in millions of years. Dinosaurs can become birds and ape-like creatures can become humans.”

I would expect the author of a book written specifically as a defense of evolution against creationist claims to present evidence which counters creationist claims. Why do so many evolutionists center their message on evidence which does not defend evolution against the creationist position? Often, but not always, it is because the author describes the creationist position in a biased way, and then argues against that false position, instead of arguing against the actual position of creationists. That is an error in reasoning, specifically, the straw man logical fallacy described in the spring 2018 *LSI Journal*.

## **Dawkins Summarizes the Evidence for Evolution**

Let’s examine how one of the most famous champions of evolution, Richard Dawkins, describes natural selection’s ability to produce new Biblical kinds. After writing nine books on evolution, Dawkins realized

that in those books “The evidence for evolution was nowhere explicitly set out.”<sup>2</sup> In *The Greatest Show on Earth—The Evidence for Evolution*, Dawkins states, “This book is my personal summary of the evidence that the theory of evolution is actually a fact—as incontrovertible as any fact in science.”<sup>3</sup>

Dawkins is a biologist, so his books highlight biological evolution, and especially, natural selection. He is a gifted writer whose books artfully present the evolution story in ways which hold the reader’s interest. Large sections of his books are devoted to explaining the claims of evolution and refuting common misconceptions about evolution. If you wish to better understand the claims of evolution regarding natural selection, then Dawkins’ books should be on your reading list.

Let’s see what Dawkins has to say about natural selection in his NY Times best seller *Greatest Show*. Remember, this is the book which he wrote to “explicitly set out” the “evidence that the theory of evolution is actually a fact.” We’ll summarize what he says about natural selection, while emphasizing the reasons given to convince the reader that evolution is true. We will cover his introductory chapter one, and the three chapters devoted to natural selection (chapters 2, 3, and 5). We will see that the creationist can agree with most of what Dawkins says about natural selection in these 124 pages. We will also notice that Dawkins speaks rudely about creationists. Such unprofessional comments are examples of what we must avoid while ministering to others. Our creation apologetic should always show the love of Christ.

## History-Deniers

The first six pages of chapter one are devoted to *Ad Hominem* (Latin: *to the man*) attacks on creationists. Creationists are called “brain-washed” people who advance “anti-scientific nonsense” like a real Adam and Eve. Creationists are compared to other “history-deniers” such as those who deny the Holocaust or the Roman Empire. These fallacious ar-

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<sup>2</sup> Richard Dawkins, *The Greatest Show on Earth—The Evidence for Evolution*, hardcover ed. (New York NY: Free Press, 2009), vi.

<sup>3</sup> Dawkins, vi.

guments are directed against the person making a claim instead of against their claim. Such arguments are considered an error in reasoning.

## Only a Theory

Dawkins titles chapter one, “Only A Theory?” After six pages of Ad Hominem attacks on creationists, he devotes the next six pages to explaining the scientific terms “theory” and “fact.” Creationists should agree with his explanation, as it is correct. Scientific theories are overwhelmingly accepted as true by the scientific community. Creationists often make the claim, “Evolution is only a theory –it is not proven.” Many articles in the *LSI Journal* have warned creationists to never say that, since it shows they know little about basic scientific terminology. Scientific theories do not become laws when they accumulate additional evidence. Both the laws and the theories of science are scientific facts, since those laws and theories are overwhelmingly accepted as such by the scientific community. In science, the terms “theory,” “law,” and “fact” are treated as temporary truth, which can be overturned at any time when falsified, and then replaced with another temporary truth.<sup>4,5</sup>

In the last four pages of chapter one Dawkins argues that evolution is as well proven as other scientific theories. A creationist can agree with Dawkins when he states on these pages that the sun is larger than the earth, that the earth rotates around the sun, and that South America is slowly drifting away from Africa. A creationist cannot agree that “all living things are cousins” or that humans share a “common ancestry with porcupines and pomegranates.” In chapter one, Dawkins provides no evidence at all for any of these scientific theories.

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4 “Fact: In science, an observation that has been repeatedly confirmed and for all practical purposes is accepted as ‘true.’ Truth in science, however, is never final, and what is accepted as a fact today may be modified or even discarded tomorrow.” *Science and Creationism: A View from the National Academy of Sciences*, 2nd ed. (Washington, DC: National Academy Press, 1999), 2. [pdf page 13.] <http://nap.edu/6024> (accessed April 8, 2019)

5 For an explanation why laws and theories of science (facts of science) are temporary truth, see: Mark Bergemann, “How Can A Lie Like Evolution Have Scientific Evidence?”, *LSI Journal* vol. 29 no. 1 (2015) [www.LutheranScience.org/2015lie](http://www.LutheranScience.org/2015lie) (accessed April 8, 2019)

The only evidence for evolution presented in chapter one is that evolution is overwhelmingly accepted by the scientific community as a scientific fact. We all agree that the scientific community proclaims evolution as fact, but truth is not decided by majority vote. Saying evolution is true because most scientists accept it as true, is actually a logical fallacy called the “Faulty Appeal to Authority.” It is a faulty appeal since evolutionists are biased authorities. They reject the possibility of miracles before they begin to examine the evidence. They do not reject creation based on evidence, but based on their biased presuppositions.<sup>6</sup>

## Dawkins’ Thought Experiment

In chapter two, Dawkins calls Genesis a “myth,” and then he asks us to participate in a “thought experiment.” We are to imagine a rabbit sitting beside her mother rabbit, who is sitting beside her mother (the grandmother of our first rabbit), and so on for thousands and thousands of generations. As we walk along these generations of rabbits we see very little difference between each generation, but a larger difference as we go thousands of generations. It’s as if we are walking backward in time. Eventually our rabbit ancestor looks more like a shrew than like a rabbit. Three pages are used to describe how this “thought experiment” could be applied to all animals, including people, since Dawkins claims we are all cousins. *This “thought experiment” can help us to better understand the evolutionary claim of common descent but provides no reason to accept that claim as true.*

Dawkins continues chapter two by presenting what he sees as evidence for the truth of common descent (i.e. that all plants and all animals descended from the first life form, some bacteria-like organism). The evidence presented is domestication. “In a few centuries” people bred wild cabbage into “broccoli, cauliflower, kohlrabi, kale, Brussels sprouts, spring greens, romanesco, and, of course, the various kinds of vegetables that are still commonly called cabbage.”<sup>7</sup> In addition, we learn that, “All

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<sup>6</sup> See Mark Bergemann, “Assumptions of Evolutionists,” *LSI Journal* 31, no. 4 (fall 2017): 7-16. [www.LutheranScience.org/2017fall](http://www.LutheranScience.org/2017fall) (accessed April 8, 2019)

<sup>7</sup> Dawkins, 27.

breeds of dogs are modified wolves.”<sup>8</sup> After ten pages devoted to explaining genetics and gene pools, we learn about Dawkins’ 25-year-old computer program game, where the human player makes decisions which lead to various line drawings. Chapter two concludes with the words,

If human breeders can transform a wolf into a Pekinese, or a wild cabbage into a cauliflower, in just a few centuries or millennia, why shouldn’t the non-random survival of wild animals and plants do the same thing over millions of years? That will be the conclusion of my next chapter; but my strategy first will be to continue the softening-up process, to ease the passage towards understanding of natural selection.<sup>9</sup>

Now creationists agree that natural selection can create change within kinds, and as Dawkins demonstrates in this chapter, it can be done in centuries and even in decades. It does not take millions of years.

So, the only evidence for evolution presented in chapter two is that breeding by humans resulted in changes to plants and animals, but all within their own kind. Dawkins then extrapolates that truth (without presenting any reason for so doing) into the claim that new kinds can be produced given enough time. Dawkins imagines new kinds developing through natural selection but has yet to propose any evidence of that possibility. He asks us to *imagine*,

If so much evolutionary change can be achieved in just a few centuries or even decades, just think what might be achieved in ten or a hundred million years.<sup>10</sup>

## Insect Selection

Chapter three begins with a claim that just as human selection produced dogs from wolves, selection by pollinating insects produced new

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<sup>8</sup> Dawkins, 28.

<sup>9</sup> Dawkins, 42.

<sup>10</sup> Dawkins, 37.

types of flowers.<sup>11</sup> I agree, but then Dawkins claims (without providing any evidence) this has happened over millions of years.

Dawkins explains that evolutionary science is predictive. Darwin predicted the existence of moths capable of extending their mouth parts 11 inches, since he had found an orchid with an 11-inch tube to its nectar. Such a moth was later discovered.<sup>12</sup> Of course a modern creationist (operating with creationist assumptions and views) would also make that and similar predictions, so shouldn't Dawkins admit that creation has predictive power also?

After twenty pages of examples of human selection, insect selection, and sexual selection, Dawkins finally introduces examples of natural selection. He then declares that every one of these cases of selection (by humans, by insects, etc.) is natural selection.<sup>13</sup> I agree. My article, "Natural Selection" in the fall 2016 *LSI Journal* explains natural selection that way.

On page 66, Dawkins states (*italics in original*), "Artificial selection constitutes a true *experimental*—as opposed to observational—test of the hypothesis that selection causes evolutionary change." All cases of artificial selection have shown change within the Biblical kind. So again, as with all previous evidence Dawkins has presented, this is evidence that natural selection can produce changes (even new species), all within their Biblical kinds. Dawkins has yet to provide any evidence that new kinds can be produced.

The trade-offs of natural selection are then discussed. Improvements in one feature are bought with declines in one or more other features. Then, flowers that mimic insects are examined with multiple examples. Finally, "co-evolution" is introduced: Organisms which "evolved" together such as flowers and their pollinators, predators and their prey, and parasites and their hosts.

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<sup>11</sup> Dawkins, 46.

<sup>12</sup> Dawkins, 49–50.

<sup>13</sup> Dawkins, 64.



## Imagine What Evolution Can Do

Dawkins closes chapter three by again asking us to imagine what evolution can do,

Think about the difference between any one breed of dog and any other, for that is on average double the amount of change that has been wrought, by artificial selection, from the common ancestor. Bear in mind this order of evolutionary change, and then extrapolate backwards twenty thousand times as far into the past. It becomes rather easy to accept that evolution could accomplish the amount of change that it took to transform a fish into a human.<sup>14</sup>

Dawkins' claim that humans descended from fish is based upon many unprovable presuppositions, such as the assumptions of "no creator," no flood," and "deep time."<sup>15</sup> It is also based on the claim that natural selection can produce new kinds of animals. *We are now 82 pages into the book, yet no evidence for natural selection producing new kinds has been presented, other than the faulty appeal to authority at the end of chapter one.*

## Evolution We Can See

The next chapter addressing natural selection is chapter five, "Before Our Eyes." In the first paragraph, Dawkins reports that natural selection (which is part of evolution theory) happens so fast we can watch it take place,

Although the vast majority of evolutionary change took place before any human being was born, some examples are so fast that we can see evolution happening with our own eyes during one human lifetime.<sup>16</sup>

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<sup>14</sup> Dawkins, 82.

<sup>15</sup> See "Assumptions of Evolutionists" in the fall 2017 *LSI Journal* [www.LutheranScience.org/2017fall](http://www.LutheranScience.org/2017fall) (accessed April 8, 2019)

<sup>16</sup> Dawkins, 111.



Since evolution is defined as including natural selection, I agree that we can watch some aspects of evolution happen.

Chapter five repeats the same evolutionary claim made in previous chapters: Since natural selection can produce change within each Biblical kind, that proves that natural selection can also produce new Biblical kinds. Dawkins reports on several interesting experiments and observations where evolution happens quickly. He devotes seven pages to detailing experiments where the coloration, size, and reproductive frequency of guppy offspring can change in months or a few years due to stream gravel coloration and levels of predation. The change goes back and forth to meet changing environments. We also learn about a wild lizard population where a valve in their gut went from a rare occurrence to a common occurrence over a few decades as the diet of these lizards changed from insects to plants. The average tusk size on elephants has been reduced by hunters who kill elephants with large tusks. Of course, all of these examples are in keeping with creation since they show change within kinds.

### **45,000 Generations of Bacteria**

A full 15 pages of chapter five are dedicated to reporting on Lenski's experiment involving 45,000 generations of bacteria. Throughout this section Dawkins claims creationists "hate"<sup>17</sup> this experiment, are "distressed"<sup>18</sup> and "disconcerted"<sup>19</sup> by it, and are "eager to find fault with it."<sup>20</sup> He unprofessionally uses terms such as "the twelve tribes of Israel"<sup>21</sup> and "Noah's Ark"<sup>22</sup> in describing parts of the experiment.

Well, I am a creationist who sees no need to find fault with this experiment, which simply shows changes due to natural selection but within the Biblical kind. Here Dawkins commits the straw-man fallacy<sup>23</sup> when he

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<sup>17</sup> Dawkins, 130.

<sup>18</sup> Dawkins, 117.

<sup>19</sup> Dawkins, 131.

<sup>20</sup> Dawkins, 131.

<sup>21</sup> Dawkins, 118.

<sup>22</sup> Dawkins, 118.

<sup>23</sup> See "Straw-Man Fallacy" in the spring 2018 *LSI Journal*.  
[www.LutheranScience.org/2018spring](http://www.LutheranScience.org/2018spring) (Accessed April 8, 2019)

takes the reaction of a few creationists (especially those with little scientific knowledge, like the two creationists specifically mentioned by Dawkins) and makes that the standard for the creationist view. Dawkins sums up the results of this experiment,

Lenski's research shows, in microcosm and in the lab, massively speeded up so that it happens before our very eyes, many of the essential components of evolution by natural selection: random mutation followed by non-random natural selection; adaption to the same environment by separate routes independently; the way successive mutations build on their predecessors to produce evolutionary change; the way some genes rely, for their effects, on the presence of other genes. ...Creationists hate it. Not only does it show evolution in action; not only does it show new information entering genomes without the intervention of a designer, which is something they have all been told to deny is possible ('told to' because most of them do not understand what 'information' means); not only does it demonstrate the power of natural selection to put together combinations of genes that, by the naive calculations so beloved of creationists, should be impossible; it also undermines their central dogma of 'irreducible complexity'.<sup>24</sup>

*Everything* Dawkins reports about this experiment demonstrates variation within kinds. When Dawkins claims new DNA information was produced, he is using a very wide definition for new information, where *any* change in genes (in DNA) is considered new information. This is not the kind of new information which is required to produce a new kind. Lenski's experiment demonstrates the creationist view of natural selection, and of new information, as presented in my article "Natural Selection" (fall 2016 *LSI Journal* [www.LutheranScience.org/2016fall](http://www.LutheranScience.org/2016fall)). For a more detailed report and update on Lenski's experiment (which continued for 60,000 total generations) see *Hijacking Good Science: Lenski's Bacteria Support Creation*.<sup>25</sup>

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<sup>24</sup> Dawkins, 130–131.

<sup>25</sup> Scott Whynt, "Hijacking Good Science: Lenski's Bacteria Support Cre-

## Never Say, “Evolution is Random”

The summer 2016 *LSI Journal* included the article, *Never Say “Evolution is a Random Process.”* Evolutionists claim evolution is not random. That article includes a quote from Bill Nye chiding creationists for their straw-man claim that evolution is random (such as when creationists say evolution is like a tornado going through a junk yard and producing a Boeing 747 airplane). Well, in this chapter, Dawkins declares creationists wrong since this bacteria experiment showed the non-random nature of evolution (the non-random nature of natural selection).<sup>26</sup> Many well-intentioned creationists (including some in the largest creation apologetic ministries) unintentionally criticize this straw-man version of evolution, and in doing so, give Dawkins, Nye, and so many other evolutionists the ability to correctly say that (in this case) creationists are wrong.<sup>27</sup>

## Conclusion

Dawkins claims that humans share a “common ancestry with porcupines and pomegranates.”<sup>28</sup> He wrote *The Greatest Show* as his “personal summary of the evidence that the theory of evolution is actually a fact—as incontrovertible as any fact in science.”<sup>29</sup> We examined his introductory chapter one, and the three chapters devoted to natural selection (chapters 2, 3, and 5). In those 124 pages, Dawkins explains natural selection and provides reasons why he believes that humans, porcupines, and pomegranates descended from an imagined first living creature (a single-celled micro-organism).

Dawkins provides many reasons why he believes evolution is true, and those reasons are listed below. He gives many examples of plants and animals changing within their own kind. Every now and then, he asks his

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ation,” in *Answers in Depth*, vol. 9 (2014).

[www.LutheranScience.org/LenskiAIG](http://www.LutheranScience.org/LenskiAIG) (accessed April 8, 2019)

<sup>26</sup> Dawkins, 124–125.

<sup>27</sup> For more on the straw-man fallacy, see pages 13–16 of the spring 2018 *LSI Journal* at [www.LutheranScience.org/2018spring](http://www.LutheranScience.org/2018spring) (accessed April 8, 2019)

<sup>28</sup> Dawkins, 16.

<sup>29</sup> Dawkins, vi.

readers to imagine evolution producing new kinds of plants or animals —of course he does not use the Biblical term “kind.” These imagined reasons for common descent being true are in **bold type below** (points 2, 5, 9, 10, 22, and 26). Aside from asking us to *imagine* it is true, the only reason Dawkins provides for the ability of natural selection to produce new kinds of plants and animals is his faulty appeal to authority (#1 below), as we previously discussed on page 21.

### Dawkins’ Evidence

- 1) Scientists believe that “all living things are cousins” [p. 17–18].
- 2) **Imagine rabbits descending from shrew-like creatures.** [p. 23–27].
- 3) Wild cabbage has been cultivated into “broccoli, cauliflower, kohlrabi, kale, Brussels sprouts, spring greens, ...” [p. 27].
- 4) Wolves have been bred into hundreds of dog breeds [p. 27–37]
- 5) **Since different types of dogs were bred in only centuries, “just think what might be achieved in ten or a hundred million years”** [p. 37].
- 6) Race horses and greyhounds were bred for “athletic prowess” [p. 38].
- 7) Dogs have been bred for “mental” traits such as “sheep-herding skills, or ‘pointing’, or bull-baiting” [p. 39].
- 8) Cows have been bred for large milk production [p. 39].
- 9) **Dawkins’ computer game has players select generation after generation of line drawings on the computer screen** [p. 39–42].
- 10) **“If human breeders can transform a wolf into a Pekinese, or a wild cabbage into a cauliflower, in just a few centuries or millenia, why shouldn’t the non-random survival of wild animals and plants do the same thing over millions of years?”** [p. 42].
- 11) Wild roses were bred into the roses we know today [p. 45].
- 12) Wild sunflowers were bred into the sunflowers we know today [p. 46].
- 13) Insect selection of flowers sculpted flower size, color, nectar, and other features [p. 47–54, 77–81].
- 14) Darwin correctly predicted that there were moths with an 11-inch proboscis so they could reach the nectar in orchids [p. 49-50].

- 15) Female “birds, mammals, fish, amphibians, reptiles, and insects” select males for mating [p. 54–55].
- 16) People have bred canaries which sing far differently than their wild ancestors [p. 56].
- 17) Birds do not eat caterpillars and other insects which look like snakes, bees, or other undesirable food [p. 59–60].
- 18) Prey fish selected angler fish for more tempting lures [p. 60–61].
- 19) “Artificial selection constitutes a true *experimental* – as opposed to observational – test of the hypothesis that selection causes evolutionary change” [p. 66].
- 20) Cultivating maize for high and low oil content [p. 66–67].
- 21) Foxes have been bred to be dog-like in 10–35 generations [p. 73–76].
- 22) **“Think about the difference between any one breed of dog and any other, ...Bear in mind this order of evolutionary change, and then extrapolate backwards twenty thousand times as far into the past. It becomes rather easy to accept that evolution could accomplish the amount of change that it took to transform a fish into a human”** [p. 82].
- 23) Elephant tusk weight decreased due to poaching [p. 111–113].
- 24) Lizards moved to a new island underwent change [p. 113–116].
- 25) Bacteria changed in 45,000 generations [p. 116–131].
- 26) **Since these bacteria changed, “think how much more evolution might happen in, say, 100 million years of mammal evolution”** [p. 119].
- 27) Antibiotic resistant bacteria [p. 131–133].
- 28) Male guppies change through natural selection [p. 133–139].

### Three Lessons for the Creationist

#### 1) **Never demean evolutionists:**

Notice how Dawkins’ demeaning of creationists makes you feel. Does that invite you to read his books, or does it turn you away? Always remember you are Christ’s ambassador to the world, meaning you are

God's representative to everyone, including evolutionists. Do not belittle those to whom you represent God. Reflect the love of Christ as you minister to both creationists and to evolutionists.

**2) Avoid even implying that all of evolution is wrong:**

A creationist can agree with much of evolution theory. This is especially true of the core evolution teaching of natural selection. Natural selection really does produce new species, but always within the Biblical kind.

**3) True parts of evolution used as proof that false parts are also true:**

Dawkins shows that natural selection produces new species within their kind. Then he asks his readers to *imagine* that natural selection can also produce new kinds.

## Using Apologetics in Your Ministry

Creationists and evolutionists often agree. Point that out as you minister to creationists and to evolutionists. Discuss some of those points of agreement as a path to discussing the assumptions which guide and constrain evolutionary science.<sup>30</sup> Always remember that when witnessing to unbelievers, your goal is to present the gospel message (not to discuss creation or evolution).<sup>31</sup>

*This article was written as a course text for the Martin Luther College online course "Creation Apologetics 102" [SCI9002] and has been used in that course since October, 2018. Mark Bergemann is a retired electrical engineer with a B.S. from UW-Milwaukee. He serves as president of the Lutheran Science Institute and as Martin Luther College adjunct instructor for the online courses Creation Apologetics 101 and 102. He is a member of Good Shepherd's Evangelical Lutheran Church in West Allis, Wisconsin.*

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<sup>30</sup> For more on the assumptions of evolutionists, see pages 7-16 of the fall 2017 LSI Journal at [www.LutheranScience.org/2017fall](http://www.LutheranScience.org/2017fall) (accessed April 8, 2019)

<sup>31</sup> For more on using apologetics in your ministry to both believers and to unbelievers, see pages 8-21 of the spring 2016 LSI Journal at [www.LutheranScience.org/2016spring](http://www.LutheranScience.org/2016spring) (accessed April 8, 2019)





## All the Same Plant

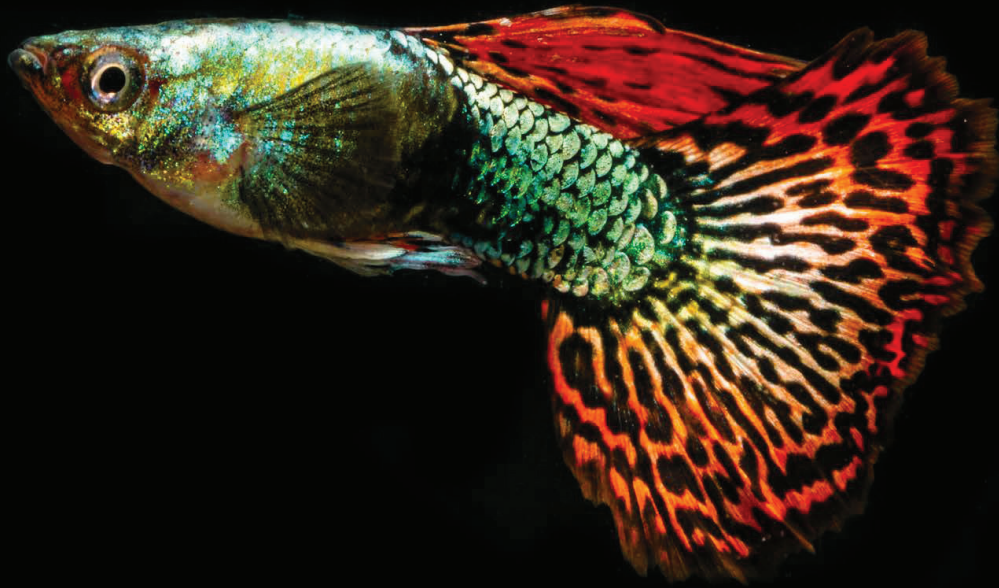
Wild mustard (*Brassica oleracea*, which Dawkins calls “wild cabbage”) has been cultivated into cabbage, broccoli, cauliflower, kale, Brussels sprouts, collard greens, savoy, kohlrabi, and other vegetables. These are all the same plant. Richard Dawkins presents this and much more as evidence that evolution can “transform a fish into a human.”<sup>1</sup>

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*photo credit: Pixabay*

<sup>1</sup> Richard Dawkins, *The Greatest Show on Earth—The Evidence for Evolution*, hardcover ed. (New York NY: Free Press, 2009), 27, 82.





## Evolution We Can See

The coloration of guppy offspring can change quickly (in months) due to stream gravel coloration and levels of predation. Females select the most brightly colored males for mating. Predators push in the opposite direction by not noticing males who blend in with the gravel. The change goes back and forth to meet changing environments. This is natural selection in action. God built variation into plants and animals so that successive generations change over time. Natural selection can even produce new species, but not new Biblical kinds.

Richard Dawkins says the changing coloration of guppies happens “so fast we can see evolution happening.”<sup>1</sup> Since evolution is defined as including natural selection, creationists can agree that we can watch some aspects of evolution happen. We can witness the coloration of guppies changing. Of course, they will still be the same Biblical kind of animal, even after an unlimited number of generations. For more, read the article in this issue of the journal, “Creationists and Evolutionists Often Agree.”

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*Photo of fancy male guppy. credit: Pixabay*

<sup>1</sup> Richard Dawkins, *The Greatest Show on Earth—The Evidence for Evolution*, hardcover ed. (New York NY: Free Press, 2009), 111.