



## Evolution Theory Under Attack for Links to Racism

Editorial Comment by Warren Krug

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**K**en Ham, the founder of the Creation Museum in Kentucky has been in the news again. Ham has co-authored a new book along with Charles Ware, an African-American, which charges that Darwin's theory fuels racism and genocide.

Titled *Darwin's Plantation: Evolution's Racist Roots*, the book says the theory of evolution puts some races "higher on the evolutionary scale" and other races "closer to the apes." Those who think this accusation is an overreaction should start by taking a look at the full title of Darwin's classic book, *On the Origin of Species by Means of Natural Selection, or the Preservation of Favoured Races in the Struggle for Life*.

There is plenty of evidence to support the notion that the evolution theory, in the past at least, has led to racist views and actions: the kidnapping of African pygmies in the early 1900s so that they could be studied by Western anthropologists; the views of Ernst Haeckel, "Germany's Darwin", that he considered "the Negro to be a lower species of man" and that Australian Aborigines were really animals; the views of American evolutionist Henry Fairfield Osborne that the different "races" should be put into different "genera", not just different species; and, of course, the evolution-based racist views of Hitler, Stalin, and Mao.

Even some Japanese during World War II considered the Japanese to be a more highly evolved race than Europeans with their long arms and hairy chests.

Christians though shouldn't get too smug. In the past, some Christians have misinterpreted the "curse on Ham" (Gen. 9:20-25) as an excuse to look down on African-Americans. Actually, the curse was on Ham's son, Canaan, and Canaan's descendants were not black.

Really, there is but one race—the "human race." Acts 17:26 tells us, "From one man he made every nation of men." Genetics shows us there is far more variation *within* any group of people than *between* groups of people.

May we look forward to that endless day when prejudice will be a thing of the past and we will see but one race, those who are wearing a crown of life. *LSI*

—Warren Krug