

THE CRITIQUE

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"The thought that living things had evolved by natural processes denied - or **denies** the special creation of humankind and seemed -or **seems** to place humanity on a plane with the animals; both of these ideas were -and **are** serious challenges to orthodox theological opinion."

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An article on Charles Robert Darwin

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What or who did *God* create in the book of *Genesis* chapter1, was it even a Hominid?

Homo sapiens, "man the wise", is the only currently existing species of the genus *Homo*. It is difficult, if not impossible, to follow the evolutionary steps that led to this distinction in the

fossil record. Charles Darwin himself defined the problem. "In a series of forms graduating insensibly from some ape-like creatures to man as he now exists," he wrote in The Descent of Man, "it would be impossible to fix on any definite point when the term man ought to be used."

One has to agree that the bible is but an almost accurate mythological account of historical truths by a people in the region of the earliest civilization in the world. Yet although it is highly morally helpful especially in the New Testament and a useful source of Historical events, it is most importantly "mythological" and not directly true; certainly we all know the world was not created in 7 days?

MY PERSONAL CONUNDRUM

Does God Know the future or not?

"If God knows the future then man has no choice and if man always has a choice then God cannot know what lies in the future precisely or accurately"

The hidden conflicting realities of the Judaist and monotheistic God

Genesis chapter 2, "7 But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die"

The reality of the Neolithic revolution

The concept of miracles to my mind whether it might or might not exist is intrinsically psychosomatic.

The morals preached in the bible which are to my mind the core are mostly ignored based on the pretext that no man can be totally righteous, giving room even for the priest. Yet, the same bible is constantly used in demagogic exercises by the same Priests or leaders of the major religions. For example, in the modern church (especially in Nigeria), the Priest is most comfortable to preach on the incoming death and punishment of one who fails to pay his tithe in his church but is often wont to mention verses as below so as not to offend his most ardent followers that are women or in some cases his wife who is an independent entity as a result of modern society.

1st Timothy chapter 2, 9 “In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety; not with broided hair, or gold, or pearls, or costly array”

or

1st Corinthians chapter 14, 34

“ Let your women keep silence in the churches: for it is not permitted unto them to speak; but they are commanded to be under obedience as also saith the law.

35 And if they will learn any thing, let them ask their husbands at home: for it is a shame for women to speak in the church.”

All in all, to my mind, the bible is just a Hebrew tale, part fiction and partly true, heavily influenced by their culture which is in turn highly influenced by their environment. Religion is a dangerous and highly manipulative tool in the hands of men, yet its social and moral importance cannot be over emphasized.

MAKE WHAT YOU MAY OF THE ABOVE... I REST MY CASE

- The Ganzzter