

# SUNDAY SCHOOL MATERIALS FOR ADULTS

## LESSON 4



## CREATION VERSUS EVOLUTION

### (Part 1)

*Scripture Texts: John 5:46-47; 1 Corinthians 15:39; Genesis 1:25-27; Genesis 2:7*

The Bible record of Creation should be sufficient to establish our belief in its statement that God created man and the animals and plants by His direct act and that they were first made in their completed form and in the various species in which they continue in this present time. But the theory of evolution has had such widespread teaching that it is embedded as an accepted fact in much of our education and literature. Our children and young people meet it continually, not always by name. Numberless souls have been led to disbelieve God's Word by it. Hence it is our duty to establish faith by bringing the issues into the open and examining into their truth or falsity.

Everything has a source. Every effect has a cause. Like begets like. All truth agrees. These are basic truths to remember.

**MEMORY VERSE:** *So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.—Genesis 1:27*

### Moses' Writing Inspired by God

**John 5:46-47** Moses wrote Genesis that tells of creation. Jesus places the truth of Moses' writings beyond question when He gives them His approval. He links belief of them with belief of His own Words. In a very real sense, Moses' writings ARE Jesus' Words. They were inspired by God, or given to Moses by God (**2 Peter 1:21**). We need fear no statement which is proven to be a fact. It will agree with all other truth, and so, with the Bible.

Life is here. How did it come to be? There are three theories held.

1. Creation – Those who accept the Bible believe that life is of divine origin, that God created man and each species of plants and animals in their completed form. There may be development within a species. For instance, cattle have been improved for beef and for milk, but they are still cattle. But this is limited. It cannot go beyond the boundary of its species, its kind. No new species has ever been formed. Since this answer of how life came to be is in the Bible, it is not a theory, but a record. We believe it as God's Word,
2. Naturalistic Evolution – The evolution theory was set forth by Charles Darwin in his books, "Origin of Species" in 1859 and "The Descent of Man" in 1871. The theory takes two forms. Naturalistic or Materialistic Evolution teaches that life began spontaneously (of itself) as a cell in the slime of the ocean bed, and by its own power worked upward through various advancing stages until the present state of man was reached. In this process, all the forms of plant and animal life were produced. This theory leaves God out.
3. Theistic Evolution – This is a modified form of the evolution theory that teaches that living things have evolved, but it gives God a place in the plan. It is an attempt to reconcile the two schools of thought. It teaches that God created the germ of life in the beginning. Then it evolved into the many forms we have now. God is called the First Cause. Do not fear to investigate. To prove a false theory false, trace it to its end. Truth cannot be overthrown. Truth is eternal.

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### Different Flesh

**1 Corinthians 15:39 All flesh is not the same flesh.** It would be the same if it all came from the same beginning cells as theorized in evolution. It would not be if each kind were made by a separate act of creation. God's Word tells us here that the flesh of men, of beasts, of fish, and of birds are different kinds. Then they cannot all have been the same thing in some distant past. They must have been created separately as the Bible says.

**Genesis 1:25 God made the beast ... cattle ... and every thing that creepeth upon the earth after his kind.** The kind of each was established. Each was to follow its established pattern, or keep to its own kind. The young of each was to be of the same kind as its parents. Ten times this chapter repeats **after his kind (or their kind)**, indicating its importance. This law of reproduction prohibits the change from one species to another; the taking on of new parts, new characteristics, and new nature, which evolution says has happened continually.

**Genesis 1:26-27 God created man in his own image** – not in the image of a cell in the slime. No beast was our father. What great favor God showed to this last piece of His creation to make him after the pattern of Himself! No other animal was made thus. They all were to **be after their kind**, or after the pattern they were made in. Man alone was after the likeness of God. Therefore, man cannot have come from beasts. Both men and women were made the same, **in the image of God, for male and female created he them.**

**Genesis 2:7** The breath of God made man a **living soul**. Of no other of creation is this said. The beasts are not souls. Plants are not. Only man is. Being of a different kind than beasts, man could not have come from them. He was created by God separately as the Bible says. He was a man or human when first made. He continues ever since to be a man. Being made a living soul in the image of God, man was linked with God. Sin spoiled the relationship, but still, we are made for God and can never be happy and complete without Him. The unsaved person has an empty, hungry place that only God can fill.

### JUST A THOUGHT

**The most wonderful thing ever made by man is a living for his family.**

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