

How did Life Arise and Evolve?

The Bible tells us that God created life on Earth on Days 5-6 of Creation ([Genesis 1:20-31](#)). While this account does differ from the secular theory of the Darwinian evolution of life, much of the Biblical account has been confirmed by recent scientific evidence. In fact, all of the most recent scientific evidence tends to support the creation of life by a higher-intelligent agency, and actually falsifies the Darwinian theory. This evidence is discussed further below.

Now it's true that there is no current evidence that any natural process in operation today could create and evolve life in two days. This would require miraculous powers from an omnipotent God. But omnipotence is one of the characteristics of God that is revealed in the Bible. So there is no contradiction here. And some of the ways that God could have performed the miracle of a six-day creation are speculated about in [Big Questions/Biblical Creation Account](#).

Furthermore, there are recent scientific discoveries that do support the Biblical account of the creation of life. They are divided here into two sections: (1) Origin of Life and (2) Evolution of Life.

Origin of Life

The origin of life is currently a complete mystery to secular scientists. There are no known natural processes that could explain how life could arise from the physical and chemical laws that operate on the objects in our Universe. This fact is presented forcefully by [James M. Tour](#), one of the leading synthetic chemists of our time.

Recent chemical and biological research has categorized a growing set of physical and chemical obstacles that would need to be overcome simultaneously in order for life to arise naturally. Some of these obstacles are described in the book [The Stairway to Life: An Origin of Life Reality Check](#). They include:

1. Formation and Concentration of Chemical Building Blocks
2. Chemical Chirality
3. The Paradox of Water
4. Chemical Bonds and Linkages
5. Origin of Complex DNA Code
6. Origin of Complex DNA Regulation
7. Sophisticated DNA Quality Control and Repair
8. Origin of Compartmentalized Membranes

9. Origin of Metabolism and Energy Management
10. DNA/RNA/Protein Interdependencies
11. Coordination of Cellular Purpose

Each of these individual obstacles presents a prohibitively difficult barrier for any natural process to overcome. Taken together, they form an impossible task for anything but an intelligent agent. In fact, the complexity of the task is much higher than anything any human intelligence could accomplish. It could only have been accomplished by a higher intelligence.

From all of this, a firm and confident prediction can be made. Human scientists will never understand how life could arise from natural causes, nor will they be able to duplicate it with a synthetic process. The mystery will only deepen as new obstacles are discovered and added to the list.

Actually, most Darwinists are willing to concede that Darwinism does not explain the origin of life. Even Darwin himself [conceded](#) the matter. But Darwinists maintain that once life appeared, then the Darwinian process of incremental changes followed by natural selection can account for the evolution of new and more complex species of life. Their most popular postulated process is that of [Gene Duplication](#), which supposedly can provide the raw material for much or all of biological evolution.

But there is no actual evidence for the evolution of any new species via gene duplication, nor any other Darwinian process. Indeed, there is growing scientific evidence that the origin of any new species is similar to the origin of life itself, in that it cannot occur via any undirected natural process, including gene duplication. This is discussed further below.

Evolution of Life

There are a number of recent and current areas of research that have shown that life could have neither arisen nor evolved via undirected natural processes. These include:

- o [Mathematical Proofs from Specified Complexity Theory](#)
- o [The Fossil Record](#)
- o [The Genetic Record](#)
- o [Field Observations](#)
- o [Laboratory Research](#)
- o [Computer Simulations of Evolution](#)
- o [Language/Computer Coding Experience](#)

- o [Irreducible Complexity](#)
- o [Physical Body Plans](#)

So how could life have arisen and evolved? To date we have no evidence that the complex specified information required for life could have arisen or evolved from natural undirected causes. This lack of evidence supports the Biblical account that life was created by God. But is this line of reasoning only a “God of the Gaps” argument? That is, if we wait long enough, will materialists and atheists discover a way that nature could have done this without divine intervention?

No. In his book “[Darwin’s Doubt](#)”, philosopher of science Stephen C. Meyer describes a positive argument for the intelligent design of life, namely “[Abductive Inference](#)” (or “Abductive Reasoning”, or “Inference to the Best Explanation”, or “Method of Multiple Competing Hypotheses”). This type of argument was first characterized by C.S. Peirce in the nineteenth century, and was actually used by Darwin in an attempt to support his theory of evolution by incremental undirected changes and natural selection in “Origin of the Species”.

In abductive inference, explanations about historical events are evaluated based on comparing potential causes now in operation that have the power to produce the effect in question. The best explanation from these competing causes is then inferred to be the most likely explanation for the past event. When there is only one known cause currently in operation for the effect in question, then abductive inference leads to a conclusive inference.

In the case of the origin of the complex specified information that has been coded into the genome of biological life, the only known cause in operation today with the potential ability to produce that information is human intelligence. In fact, the creation of the complexity of the information in biological cells is far beyond the abilities of any human intelligence. Only a higher level of intelligence could have done it.

So what kind of higher intelligence could have produced this life and delivered it to Earth? It is prohibitively unlikely that any extra-terrestrial beings of higher intelligence exist anywhere in the physical Universe. (See: [How was the Earth Formed?](#)) There is also no evidence that a biological information generator was included anywhere in the Universe when it was formed, or that one was added during the Universe’s history. So it is most likely that the biological information was designed and developed by a hyper-intelligent being outside of the Universe, and then implanted into the Universe and onto the Earth (which validates and confirms the Biblical account).

As far as we know, the first life could have been put on Earth in the form of pre-existing microorganisms that were deposited in the Earth's oceans. After they were designed and created, these organisms could have been implanted in our Universe via a number of physical mechanisms. For example, they could have been delivered through areas in or near black holes that would allow survivable passages. Or they could simply have been placed at strategic points in a 4th spatial dimension outside of our Universe, and then captured in our 3-dimensional space as our Universe expanded into the 4th dimension.

These early organisms could not have survived long periods during the early times of the Universe, so it is likely they did not appear in the Universe until after the Earth had been created (i.e. Day 5 of the Biblical account). After these microorganisms were deposited, they could reproduce and become established. After that point, there are existing mechanisms in operation today that allow for transitional information to be applied to existing organisms in order to transition them to higher-level organisms. These mechanisms make use of [germ-cell retroviruses](#), which infect the egg or sperm cells of an existing organism, and implant new DNA information into the organism's genome. These germ-cell viruses are single-celled microorganisms that could have been implanted in the Universe in the same way as the original microorganisms were. So by the same abductive reasoning as was discussed above, this scenario provides a possible version of [Theistic Evolution](#) that could have occurred on Day 5 of Creation.

So did God use germ-cell retroviruses to create higher forms of life from lower forms on Day 5? Or did He "poof" whales and elephants into existence from scratch? We may never know, but it is remarkable that biological micro-machinery exists in all life forms that could be manipulated by humans to use these germ-cell viruses for applications like medical [gene therapy](#).

Whereas the complexity of biological information is too vast for humans to create life forms from scratch, all life forms on Earth come equipped with existing genetic machinery, the operation of which is simple enough for humans to use to make incremental changes to existing organisms. As genetic knowledge increases, and as more species' genomes are decoded, it may even become possible for humans to use germ-cell viruses to transition the egg of one life form into an embryo of another similar life form (e.g. dog-to-wolf, or bird-to-dinosaur, or elephant-to-mammoth). It may even become possible for humans to engineer new and novel life forms.