

Life on Earth - Two Faiths - 6

Scientists demonstrate the truth of their theories by experiment. In the case of the origin of life this cannot be done for more than one reason. Physical conditions in the hypothetical era and environment of the earth can only be a guess. Aiming at simulating such conditions in the extremely limited space of a modern laboratory is an unrealistic objective.

- And even if life were produced experimentally - a result of human intervention - it would be no proof that the first living cell appeared spontaneously - with no intermediate agency to bring it into existence. Yet despite this, the spontaneous evolution of life and the subsequent developments from it are universally treated as a fact. It is taught as if it had been completely proved and demonstrated without any shadow of doubt.

Evolutionists scorn the faith of 'religionists' in creation, calling it unscientific to believe in events which defy the natural physical laws. In fact, their faith involves even more such events than the Christian's. Evolution is not a science but a philosophy that will not tolerate being questioned, but must be believed and trusted despite the many objections to it. Those scientists who reject the theory are rarely heard from because they would be blacklisted out of employment.

- There has been a modification in evolutionary thought since Darwin's time. It was strongly argued at one time that a complete cell could arise spontaneously, but it is now conceded that this is impossible. Despite the fact that the various cell components serve no purpose on their own, evolutionists now insist that these various components arose first by chance, and then integrated with each other to form a cell that eventually became alive.

They suggest that it all began about three billion years ago, when they say the earth had an atmosphere that consisted of methane, hydrogen and ammonia gases with water vapour. By the action of lightning these combined chemically to form amino acids and the other basic building blocks of the large molecules associated with living matter.

- In the laboratory it has been shown that some, but not all, of the twenty amino acids - needed by a living cell - can indeed be formed by passing a spark through these gases. It is believed* these chemicals were washed into the sea or some inland pool, where they joined together to form proteins and nucleic acids.

Experiments with proteins suggest that some can form tiny spherical globules, trapping a little drop of water inside. If this happened to these newly formed proteins, and one of them trapped inside it a molecule of the accidentally formed nucleic acid, then the basic components of a cell would be formed. They suggest that this gradually accumulated other compounds in a similar way until this cell at last became alive, with the ability to reproduce itself.

- * To "believe" is defined as "to have confidence or faith in."

In this way, it is said, life could have started. Gradually this hypothesis has been assumed to be a fact, especially in the minds of those who are unable or not interested in evaluating for themselves the information that it is based on. This explains how the accidental origin of life is now almost universally taught as a fact.

- What is not generally realized is the number of assumptions that have to be made to provide an even remotely workable theory, and the many proved scientific findings that have to be ignored. Next time, God willing, we will look at some of these.