

**Introduction:**

Is it intellectually feasible to believe that the God of the Bible created the world, the universe, and all living things?

**OR**

Is the atheistic evolution taught in public schools the empirical, logical, proven scientific fact of how life came into existence?

**Defining our terms:**

**Microevolution:** The small changes that only happen within a species. Some examples of microevolution are the mosquito’s ability to resist DDT after years of exposure, and the ability of different bacterial strains to resist penicillin.

**Macroevolution:** The vertical transition between species (from one kind of species to another kind) evolving to account for all animal and human life.

**Creation:** The belief that God created all things out of nothing, as described in the Bible in the book of Genesis. All of life in its rich complexity happened as the result of the all-powerful, all-knowing, sovereign God of the universe who is Maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

**Today’s four major positions:**

The origin and development of life			
<b>Group 1</b>	<b>Group 2</b>	<b>Group 3</b>	<b>Group 4</b>
Classic Creationism	Classic Evolution	Theistic Evolution	Intelligent Design
The literal biblical account	Random chance and natural selection	God-supervised evolution	A designer of some kind

## Examining the evidence for yourself:

### 1. How did life begin?

**Evolution:** Life's beginning was unsupervised, impersonal, unpredictable, a natural process. The beginning of life was random, undirected without either plan or purpose.

~Association of Biology Teachers

"A random, undirected working without either plan or purpose."

~Prentice Hall Text Book

**Creation:** Defined by the Bible. God spoke.

*"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth."*

Genesis 1:1

*"You alone are the Lord. You made the heavens..."*

Nehemiah 9:6

### 2. Why did life begin?

**Evolution:** Life began as a pure accident. It was random chance. There was no design, no plan, no meaning, no emotions, no purpose, and no value.

**Creation:** You are the special creation of a good and all-powerful God. You are the climax of His creation. Not only is your kind unique, but you are unique among your kind.

*"He has made everything beautiful in its time.  
He also set eternity in the human heart..."*

Ecclesiastes 3:11

### 3. How did various plants and animals develop?

**Evolution:** A simple cell evolved to more complex plants and animals through the process of time, chance, natural selection, mutations, and survival of the fittest over a period of billions of years.

**Creation:** God created various plants, animals, kinds, and species in a harmonic balance to reflect His attributes and character.

Romans 1:20; Psalm 19

### Complexity of Life

#### Cells

Thanks to today's more powerful microscopes, we know that a single-cell organism, the most basic unit of any living thing, is incredibly complex.

#### DNA

DNA is like the software of the cell, the computer program that makes it work. In fact, if you took a tablespoon and filled it to the top with this DNA, your tablespoon could contain the precise instructions to build every single species of organism that has ever existed on the planet.

#### Astronomy

*“Astronomers now find they have painted themselves into a corner because they have proven, by their own methods, that the world began abruptly in an act of creation to which you can trace the seeds of every star, every planet, every living thing in this cosmos and on the earth. And they have found that all this happened as a product of forces they cannot hope to discover. That there are what I or anyone would call supernatural forces at work is now, I think, a scientifically proven fact.”*

- Robert Jastrow

### Discussion Questions:

1. What is one takeaway from this study that gives you confidence in your faith in Jesus Christ?
2. What were you taught about the origins of life growing up? At home? At school? At church? What were your thoughts about it?
3. Chip shares that both the theory of creation and the theory of Darwinian evolution are “faith propositions.” Do you agree or disagree? Explain.
4. Have you felt “anti-intellectual” for believing in creation? Has your perspective changed? Why or why not?
5. Could evolution be a mask we have collectively hid behind in order to avoid the accountability and implications of answering to our Creator? Does your belief about the origins of life affect your worldview? Explain.
6. Do you honestly believe, with your life and not just your head, that God created all that there is? Will you dialogue with your family and friends about creation and evolution? What will you tell them?