

A. Darwin's Challenge

1. Naturalism: evolution is a process driven by unguided natural selection.

2. Old Earth: the Earth is 4.5 billion years old in a universe that is 14 billion years old.

3. Biblical and theological problems (see Norman C. Nevin, *Should Christians Embrace Evolution?* Presbyterian & Reformed Press, 2011):
 - a. Was creation ever good? (is death normal?)
 - b. Did the Fall actually happen?
 - c. Can we trust God for redemption?
 - d. Is God good?
 - e. Are humans uniquely special?
 - f. Why does everyone sin if we aren't "in Adam"?
 - g. Can we be saved in Christ if we aren't "in Adam"?
 - h. Can we trust the Bible?
 - i. How to counsel someone who is dying?

B. The Genetic Challenge (see Francis Collins, Peter Enns, biologos.org)

1. What they say
 - a. Similarity between the human genome and chimpanzees reveals a common ancestry.
 - b. Diversity in the human genome reveals that our ancestors reached a bottleneck some 150,000 years ago, and from these several thousand hominids we have evolved.

2. Hints they find in Scripture: where did Cain get his wife (Gen. 4:17), why was he afraid that others would hunt him down and kill him (Gen. 4:14), and where did he find enough people to build a city (Gen. 4:17)?

3. Biblical and theological problems: same as above, with an added problem that Jesus and Paul evidently assumed that Adam and Eve were the first humans (Matt. 19:4-6; Rom. 5:12-21; 1 Cor. 15:21-22)

C. Various Scenarios (see C. John Collins, *Did Adam and Eve Really Exist?* Crossway, 2011)

1. Darwinian evolution → Theistic Evolution → Old Earth Creationism → Young Earth Creationism

2. Theistic evolution options (from more conservative to less so)

a. God intervened in the evolutionary process and directly created Adam and Eve.

b. God selected two evolved hominids and bestowed on them his image, transforming them from *Homo sapiens* into *Homo divinus*.

c. God bestowed his image upon a group of hominids who were led by their tribal chieftains, Adam and Eve.

d. God bestowed his image upon many hominids at various places around the world (polygenesis).

e. There was no Adam and Eve, but the entire human race evolved from hominids which evolved from lower life forms.

D. Some Non-negotiables (from C. John Collins, *Did Adam and Eve Really Exist?*)

1. God was involved in the creation of human beings.

2. Adam and Eve were the headwaters of the human race.

3. The Fall is both historical and moral. It happened.