

who invented a system of scientific nomenclature which is used by all scientists today. It's been developed, of course, since; but he originated the idea ~~that~~ x of the system; the species, and the genus, and the family, and so on, a rising system of arrangement, and Linnaeus believed that every single species was a separate invention of God. Linnaeus was no evolutionist. But Linnaeus is not our authority; the Bible is our authority. And does the Bible ~~say~~ anywhere say, "God created every one of Linnaeus's species as a separate thing - to create after its kind." No, it doesn't. It says God created the trees and the plants, the grass and the herbs to reproduce after ^{its} their kind. Well now, what does "after their kind" mean? Did you ever see a ~~parrot-that~~ parent ~~that~~ who had a child who was just exactly like the parent? You never did. The chances are you can find qualities in that child that are very different from the parent; they may be exactly like one of the grandparents, but very different from the parent; and you never saw a child that was just exactly like the parent. "After their kind" does not mean exact duplication. It means within a certain area. There is a certain area within which things may develop. How big is that area? The Bible doesn't say. Are there a few million - as in Linnaeus system of special applied to all the plants and all the animals might suggest? Are there only a few hundred thousand, if by ~~kind~~ "Kind" he means "genus?" instead of species?" Are there maybe a few thousand if it means "family" instead of "genus?" How many "kinds" - according to the Biblical word here, are there? Are there 10,000,000? Are there 100,000? Are there 100? Are there 50? The Bible doesn't say. All we know is: there are definite kinds; we know that. And that precludes any idea that everything had developed by natural process from one individual simple start. But how many different stages - how many kinds God created, the Bible doesn't say. And I have known young people from find Christian homes who have become convinced that there had been a development from one species to another (I'm not saying there is any such proof); of course the difficulty is defining your species exactly anyway; that's the thing on which people don't agree) but they have seen what was said to be absolute proof of development from one species