

"AFTER THEIR KIND"

There are two important points at which we should note a sharp contradiction between the Genesis account and the theory of evolution. The first of these relates to the phrases "after his kind" and "after their kind," which occur ten times in the first chapter of Genesis (in verses 11, 12, 21, 24 and 25).

These verses indicate that God created a number of different "kinds" of plants and animals and that each was to reproduce "after his kind." Of course this did not mean that any generation would be identical with the preceding one. Every tree in the world is different from every other tree. No child is an exact copy of any parent. There is a considerable amount of variation in every group. Procreation "after their kind" means that the area of variation within a "kind" is definitely limited. This constitutes a sharp contradiction to the theory of evolution, which holds that all the numerous types of living things have developed through natural causes by "descent with variation" from one original simple form of life.

We should note that Genesis does not say how many different kinds God created, and does not tell how large a "kind" is. There might have been a hundred, or a thousand, or a million. The Bible does not say how many. It does definitely teach that there are kinds. We shall discuss this later in connection with the activity of the Swedish botanist Linnaeus. We simply note here that there are definite divisions beyond which procreation does not go. This contradicts any thoroughgoing theory of evolution, which insists that every type of life has developed by natural processes from one simple source.

MAN A DIRECT CREATION OF GOD

We have already noticed how much stress Genesis 1 lays on the fact that man was a direct creation of God. Genesis 2 shows that in the course of the making of man there was a certain element of process. As we have seen, Genesis 2:7 indicates that God took some of the inorganic matter that he had already created and formed this into a certain form and then "breathed into him the breath of life, and he became a living soul."