

THE WOMAN'S ENCYCLOPEDIA OF MYTHS AND SECRETS

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(PAGE 292, ABOUT EVOLUTION):

The theory of species development given to the world by Darwin and his successors had no special religious significance, except that Christian authorities viewed it as a contradiction of their all important Eden myth, just as Galileo's astronomical discoveries contradicted the Bible's geocentric Cosmos. The theory of evolution showed man could not have "fallen"; there was no original sin and therefore no need of salvation. In 1969 a German theologian, Dr. Schund said, "if Darwin be right in his view of the development of man out of brutal condition, then the Bible teaching in regard to man is utterly annihilated". The American Episcopal church said: "If this hypothesis be true, then is the Bible an unbearable fiction...then have Christians for nearly two thousand years been duped by a monstrous lie...Darwin requires us to disbelieve the authoritative word of the Creator". Another theological heavyweight declared: "If the Darwinian theory is true, Genesis is a lie, the whole framework of the book of life falls to pieces, and the revelation of God to man, as we Christians know it, is a delusion and a snare".

These gentlemen were right. The theory of evolution does indeed contradict the biblical creation myths and the dogma of the Fall. As the evidence in favor of evolution continued to pile up, fundamentalist churches desperately sought ways to ignore it, or else, reconcile the irreconcilable. Pope Paul IV spoke on the subject of evolution in 1996: Such explanations do not agree with the teaching of the sacred Scripture, "Sacred Tradition, and the Church's Magisterium, according to which the sin of the first man is transmitted to all his descendants not through imitation, but propagation...The theory of evolution will not seem acceptable to you whenever it is not decisively according with the immediate creation of each and every soul by God, and whenever it does not regard as decisively important for the fate of mankind the disobedience of Adam, the universal first parent."

Since the theory of evolution can never be "decisively in accord" with the orthodox view, it can never be accepted by the "infallible church". The orthodox view has remained on the 17th century level of Father Mersenne who "expressed the opinion of the most enlightened theologians when he declared that orthodoxy did not fear either science or reason, and was quite prepared to accept all their conclusions, provided they agree with the Scriptures".

Seventeen hundred years ago, Origen wrote of the Garden of Eden myth: "No one would be so foolish as take this allegory as a description of actual

fact". But Origen was excommunicated, and countless millions have been precisasely the foolish.