

“Will the Real Missing Link Stand Up?”

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“Let the earth bring forth the living creature according to its kind... and it was so.” Genesis 1:24

As you have might have read recently and with much hyped up fanfare, an international team of scientists has made the claim to have found THE missing link. There is no doubt that this is one of the most significant and well-preserved primate fossils ever found. This fossilized squirrel monkey-sized primate is around 95% complete and has been named “Ida” after leading professor Hurum’s six-year-old daughter, the age of the primate at its death. It was originally discovered over 20 years ago and has been secured and analyzed over the past 2 years. What is predictably disturbing about this find is the amount of publicity and claims that are being made as this fossil was unveiled to the world on May 19. New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg along with filmmakers and others were in attendance. The BBC has already filmed a full-blown documentary to highlight the find as being “proof of evolution.” Professor Hurum said at the press conference, “This is the first link to all humans.”

Not all secular scientists are convinced however. Paleontologist Richard Kay of Duke University says, “There is no phylogenetic analysis to support the claims, and the data is cherry-picked.” Callum Ross, from University of Chicago states that many of their claims are unsupported in light of modern methods of classification. The beauty of the scientific method is when making a discovery, you have the opportunity to publish the evidence and provide a framework for understanding the find, which will then be picked apart by your peers and colleagues in the scientific community. What bothers these scientists is the hype of making absolute statements before this process has been completed. They have come out with incredible media and marketing techniques in order to push their discovery of the “proof of evolution” when in fact they have no proof at all.

It has never been demonstrated that evolution is proved or able to be reproduced empirically in the lab. This lack of scientific repeatability is the bane of evolution. It doesn’t hold up to scrutiny. There is too much belief involved despite the lack of evidence. Many years from now, you will see “Ida” get pushed to the bottom of the list of all the other failed “missing links” that were found as new “data” gets discovered. This has been the classic model of paleontology/anthropology for the last 100 years. It goes like this: a major discovery followed by a major evolutionary claim, followed by a quiet but decisive debunking of the discovery and then it’s off to a new discovery, claim, etc. which causes people to forget the previous claims.

Let me remind you of a few of the previous claims that were also heralded as the missing link which are now recognized as being either a mistake or unfortunately, intentional frauds. Realize that many of these links are from just a few pieces of bone and not from an entire excavated skeleton.

Nebraska Man was discovered in 1922 and was used as an example of proof of evolution in the famous Scopes Trial of 1925. Originally, all they had found was a tooth and this was the “evidence” used to support evolution. Yet years later, the entire skeleton was uncovered and they discovered that the tooth used earlier was from a pig! What an embarrassment to the scientific community, but the truth was only quietly mentioned. The Java Ape-man of 1891 was used as proof of evolution turned out to be just pieces of an ape while another Java man turned out to be from the knee-bone of an extinct elephant! Do a study on the Piltdown man, which ended up being a intentional fraud, but which kept Scientists busy for decades claiming that it was proof. There are dozens more, but I will end with the beloved “Lucy” which all students learn about. She was discovered in the early 1970s and was demonstrated as our ancestor by angles of certain bones, including the knee-joint. But what they leave out is that the knee-joint was found more than 200 feet lower in the strata and more than 2 miles away! Whoops!

Genesis 1:24 tells us that God created animals and humans that would reproduce only according to their kind and this is exactly the limits we see in the biological world. Dogs can’t produce offspring with cats, humans with animals, etc. We do see a tremendous amount of variety within the dog species, but this is still dog with dog or as God said, “after their own kinds.” If you put your trust in God and His Word, you will be farther along than a lot of scientists with a PhD, who will eventually end up finding the truth as they stand before the Lord. Have a blessed week!