

As we pondered the problem, two fresh insights emerged. The first insight involved focusing on the *scientific evidence* actually discovered as opposed to the theories that sought to explain that evidence *solely in terms of naturalistic* causes. My study should concentrate on the events in the Earth's history for which science has reasonably firm and well-documented evidence. Let us compare the scientific history of our origins with the biblical account *without regard to causation*. Perhaps modern science and the Bible are presenting the same record of historical events.

The second fresh insight involved looking at the problem of *causation* in an entirely new way. The traditional conflict between creation and evolution is so intense and so bitter precisely because it is attempting to answer the wrong question. The question is not *creation* versus *evolution*. The real question, the truly vital issue is *Creator* versus *no-creator*.

We owe our existence either to the creative acts of God or to *random chance*. When the question of existence is framed in this way we are able to look at and evaluate the evidence of modern science in a new light. The mists of the conflict begin to clear. My task in this book was therefore to present the latest scientific evidence in such a way that the readers could decide for themselves which was most valid, *Creator* or *no-creator* -- *Creator* or *random chance*.

I began my search for the latest scientific information by visiting college geology departments. I asked professors to recommend the latest and best textbooks. My sources had to be impeccable and they had to be up-to-date. I read the recommended books and was truly astonished by the changes that have occurred in science in the past twenty-five years. *Pitdown Man* was gone -- a hoax! I,

and two generations of students, had learned that the missing link had been found. Now, he was not only lost, but he was revealed to have been a clever scientific forgery. What a shock!

I learned that there had been exciting new discoveries in Africa by Richard Leakey and Donald Johanson. Their finds represent possible new candidates for the missing link lineup. But Johanson's finds, in particular, reveal something else. His research indicates that *Australopithecus africanus*, which had been charted as man's ancestor in popular and scientific texts published up to six years ago, is now to be placed outside man's evolutionary path. So another missing link bites the dust. Textbooks must once again be changed and revised.

Johanson's book *Lucy* is also enlightening in another respect. Although he thinks he has found a potential new missing link in Lucy, he is very honest about the lack of specimens and the gaping holes which exist in the fossil record. The number of specimens is so sparse that there are more scientists studying the problem than there are specimens.

Further, I was astounded to learn that scientists cannot even trace the evolution of chimpanzees and gorillas to their modern forms. The fossil record of primitive ape forms is evident until 8 million years ago; it then vanishes. Modern apes are simply here today. They have no yesterday. The fossil record of their recent past does not exist. Or have scientists been incorrectly