

of humankind happened between 7,000 and 8,000 B.C. The hunter-gatherer culture and the art of Cro-Magnon man disappeared. The beginning of agriculture occurred. Towns and cities appeared. Gone from the mainstream of civilization was the dominance of the socioeconomic practice of *sharing* as is typical of hunter-gatherer societies. In its place was substituted the concept of *possession* of property and goods. Man not only began to till the fields, he now protected his crops from nomadic tribes and ambitious neighbors.

Walls appeared around the town of Jericho around 7,000 B.C. Some scholars believe the walls were there to keep sediment out of the fields. But they could have been for defense and protection from unfriendly nomads. The dramatic change in art suggests the latter. Cro-Magnon art focused on animals. The first art from the new age of agriculture shows human beings, often with weapons and in warfare. Scenes of battle become common. There is an obsession with conflict. The biblical description of the evil of man and resulting conflicts begin to fit this picture.

It is therefore not possible to determine whether Adam and Eve were the ancestors of Neanderthal man or Cro-Magnon man. Evidence of characteristics associated with human beings appear as early as Neanderthal man. To date it is impossible to identify such characteristics any earlier. God's timing of events is often mysterious.

## A NOTE TO THE READER

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The primary focus of this book is to concentrate on scientific *evidence* rather than *theory* in order to explore the harmony between science and Scripture. However, the reader should be aware that popular and scientific literature is filled with imaginative and speculative hypotheses that attempt to explain how evolutionary forces could have produced a human being from an ancestral ape. The major failure of these hypotheses is that they totally

fail to account for man's unique qualities of reason, creativity, humor, altruism, or for his knowledge of God. To claim that the "struggle for survival" could have produced the ability to appreciate the symphonies of Beethoven is utter nonsense. Readers who wish to explore the total failure of evolutionary theory to account for the unique qualities of man should consult the excellent book *God Is*, by British scientist Alan Hayward (see Suggestions for Further Reading).

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