

WOW - Discovering Genesis Together

Session 4 - Buried Clues

Key Points

- The fossil record is composed of fossils that lie buried in rock formations in the sedimentary layers, or strata, of the earth.
- If evolutionary change happened gradually, there should theoretically be transitional forms in the fossil record.
- There is diversity in the fossil record. Lack of decay indicates rapid burial of creatures.
- Stability in the fossil record—complete creatures—shows a lack of transitional forms.
- The Cambrian Explosion and the geologic column expose missing evidence needed to support evolution: 1) the absence of transitional forms and 2) huge gaps in strata, or unconformities,” that indicate missing layers of supposed geologic time.
- Soft tissue found in dozens of fossils challenges (and shortens) the evolutionary timescale.
- The evidence matches the written history of the Genesis Flood.

Think about it

1. What are some of the biggest problems the fossil record creates for evolution?
2. What supposed key evolutionary evidence is missing from the fossils?
3. What does the Bible’s history tell us really happened to create the fossils?
4. What are some simple questions you could ask your friends to get them thinking critically about the fossil record’s implications for creation?

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Evolution vs Creation Perspectives

1. Does the fossil record illustrate evolution?

Evolution says

- a. When you look at the fossils buried in each layer, you get a picture of how life evolved - slow and gradual.
- b. Since change would have happened gradually, there should be transitional forms or “missing links” like *Archaeopteryx* (an alleged dino-bird).

Creation says

- a. Great diversity of animals in the fossil record with little decay indicates a rapid burial.
- b. No undisputed transitional forms or missing links have been found.

2. Are there gaps in the earth’s strata?

Evolution says

- a. These gaps are called “unconformities” and represent missing layers of geologic “time.”
- b. Some scientists say evolutionary leaps happened rapidly with no chance for transitional fossils to form.

Creation says

- a. The erosion and deposition resulted largely from Noah’s Flood.
- b. Secular scientists admit that “most transitions have yet to be documented in detail” (Lu, J. et al. 2009).
- c. When the fossil layers are understood as Flood deposits, the problem of supposed gaps in time vanishes (Genesis 7:19, 21).

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