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## “NEGATIVE EVIDENCE”

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### Introduction:

**Welcome:** Today’s session is looking at the importance of evidence in theory

**RECAP** Scientific Method: *a method of procedure that has characterized natural science since the 17th century, consisting in systematic observation, measurement, and experiment, and the formulation, testing, and modification of hypotheses.*

Evidence definition - *the available body of facts or information indicating whether a belief or proposition is true or valid.*

**Question 1:** Should Evidence be present in the matters of Faith?

**Hebrews 11:1:** *Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see.*

**1 Peter 3:15:** *Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have.*

**Question 2:** What is one of the biggest evidential claims in science opposed to Christianity’s view on the origins of life?

**Question 3:** Where do you sit if evolution is one end of the room and creation formed by God is the other end of the room?



**Negative Evidence** is evidence that shows. that a central tenet of some particular area of science is. false

[Watch Negative Evidence video](#)

*Pause the video at the points it states*

## Pause Video – Question 1

How important is scientific method in a theory such as Evolution?

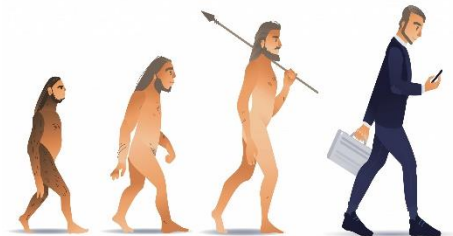
How important is faith in the theory of evolution?

## Resume video

## Pause Video – Question 2

Ask the question you asked at the beginning again:

Based on the evidence Where do you sit if evolution is one end of the room and creation formed by God is the other end of the room?



## Resume video to end

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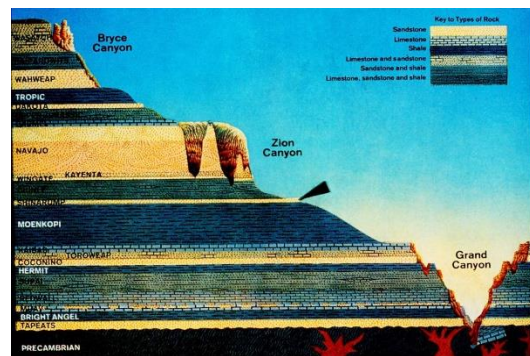
## Reflections from the video:

- Scientific method within scientific theory is important for a scientific result.
- We need to test things to know if they're true.
- Just because something is mainstream (taught or otherwise) we should approach it as critical thinkers.

## Question 4: *Is the Cumbrian Explosion further support for a biblical view?*

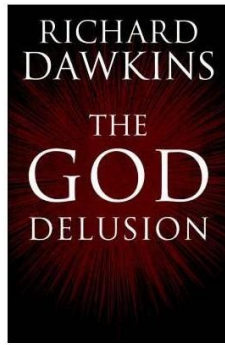
### Read Genesis 6:1-8

- With water covering the full earth it could give us the answer to all these creatures captured together in fossil record – dinosaurs could have appeared lower in sediment due to weight.



## Question 5: Why do you think negative evidence so highly pushed in our society?

- On top of evolution taught in schools and highly expected there is a growing trend called the New Atheist movement.



Ask whether people have heard of it, or the book the 'God Delusion', or the name Richard Dawkins or Christopher Hitchens?

Explain how this movement brings its militant motivation to 'dis-prove' God into the scientific/religion discussion.

**Read Genesis 3:1-4**

Often the new Atheist is seeking to not only question God, but dis-regard him completely.

Do we recognise the Spiritual Battle we face, and the opposition?

Language such as relative truth – truth is relative, there are no absolutes.

Ethical/Moral relativism - the theory that holds that morality is relative to individuals or culture – But this led to Nazi Regime.

What we maybe in fact seeing is what we see in the Bible – In the Garden, as in the days of Noah, The Israelites in the wilderness – Again does the Bible help us understand this decent from Truth?

THUS THE THEORY TO DIS-CREDIT THE EXISTENCE OF GOD. BUT THIS CAN NOT BE PROVED EITHER.

[Watch the Video: Science news William Lane Craig vs Christopher Hitchen: Does God exist?](#)

**Question 5:**     *So does Faith enter therefore into the theory of evolution / who created the first replicating molecule?*

[Watch the Video: Why Would Richard Dawkins Say That Aliens Created Life?](#)



If Christianity is wrong – what have we got to lose?

If Atheism is wrong what have they got to lose?

## Approaching the New Atheist: Important tactics to remember.

Remember it's not a fight:

**1 Peter 3:15:** *Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect, 16 keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behaviour in Christ may be ashamed of their slander.*

## But what about Dinosaurs, where do they fit in?

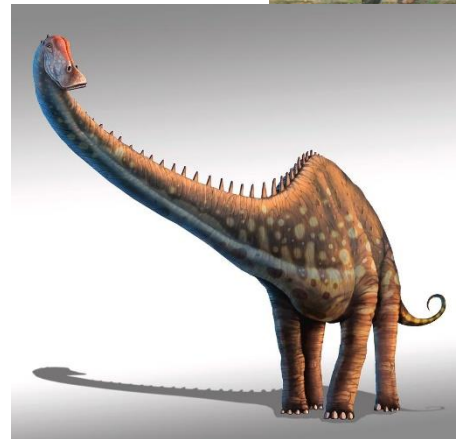
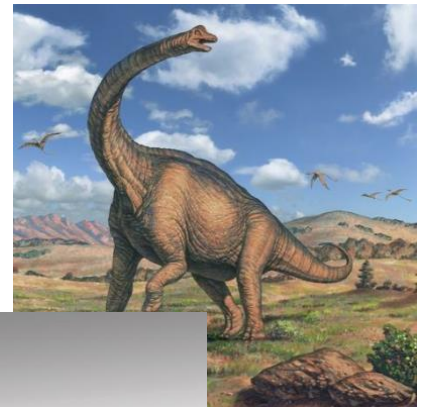
Watch video to start off... <https://youtu.be/EAkPIgWVKd8> (3 mins long)

There are two main arguments when it comes to dinosaurs,

Argument 1. the big 'sea creatures' (Job chapter 41) are what we now call dinosaurs. The "behemoth" is said to be the strongest of all God's creatures, a giant whose tail is like a tree (Job chapter 40, verse 15), very similar to a diplodocus or a brachiosaurus.

Job 40:15

- <sup>15</sup> "Behold, Behemoth,<sup>[a]</sup>  
which I made as I made you;  
he eats grass like an ox.  
<sup>16</sup> Behold, his strength in his loins,  
and his power in the muscles of his belly.  
<sup>17</sup> He makes his tail stiff like a cedar;  
the sinews of his thighs are knit together.  
<sup>18</sup> His bones are tubes of bronze,  
his limbs like bars of iron.



The question is: if scientists are right and dinosaurs died out 65 million years ago, how could they be in the Bible, which was written only a few thousand years ago?

Argument 2. 2. Others believe that the earth really is millions of years old and that each day in creation was thousands of years (old age view). Perhaps dinosaurs were part of these eras, living and dying on the earth as part of its preparation for the end of 'day' six when God made people?

**If this is the view that you take, and even if it's not why do you think God take such a long time to make the earth when he could have just clicked his fingers?**



God wanted us to understand something about him: he takes his time, and his timing is perfect. God isn't a 'finger-clicking' genie. He's the God who wants to have a relationship with us that develops over time. He treats us as he treated creation—taking the time to do things properly with us.

**Question 7: Which view do you feel is more convincing and why?**

**Has your view changed since hearing these two arguments?**

Watch video Thorny Questions: How Do Dinosaurs Fit With The Bible?  
(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qMEdgeA1JSU>) (2 mins long)