

The Gospel Unashamed

"From the cowardice that shrinks from new truth, from the laziness that is content with half-truths, from the arrogance that thinks it knows all truth, O, God of Truth, deliver us."

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~ All articles are written by George L. Faull, Rel. D. unless otherwise stated ~

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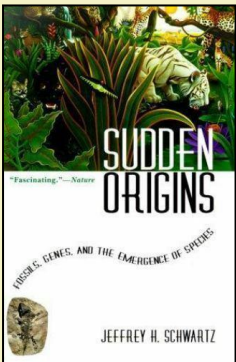
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George L. Faull, Editor

Sudden Origins

--By Terry Carter

"Darwin may have argued that new species emerge through a slow, gradual accumulation of tiny mutations, but the fossil record reveals a very different scenario – the sudden emergence of whole new species, with no apparent immediate ancestors."



The quote above comes from the back cover of the book *Sudden Origins* by Jeffrey H. Schwartz, published in 1999.

Dr. Schwartz was a professor of anthropology at the University of Pittsburg at that time. I am not aware of whether he is still in that position or not.

Dr. Schwartz is not arguing in this book that the theory of evolution is incorrect. Rather, he is presenting a new mechanism by which evolution might have occurred.

He does make a rather convincing case that the previous proposals as to how evolution could have happened have not been supported by the data provided by the fossil record.

Notice that the fossil record does not provide evidence for the most

commonly accepted means of evolution. Instead, it suggests either no evolution or evolution that is quite sudden and a complete appearance of a new species.

On page 300 of the book, he says the following:

"Nevertheless, it was and still is the case that...the formation of a new species, by any mechanism, has never been observed."

On page 355, he elaborates as follows:

"This in spite of the irony that no one on the side of gradual change leading to speciation had ever observed, much less studied genetically, the emergence of a new species. It was simply assumed that the processes that were supposed to occur among individuals and between generations would work at levels of evolution beyond the individual."

Notice that Dr. Schwartz explains that the "traditional" method proposed for slow and gradual evolution is really based on nothing but an assumption, not on observation. I do not want to base my entire worldview and eternity on the "assumptions" of men. I do not believe you should either.

Evolutionists usually explain the lack of observations discussed above by appealing to the supposed long and gradual process of forming new species. They say, "We simply have not been observing the process long enough". After all, they say, it takes millions of years for new species to arrive.

However, the lack of evidence for such phenomena in the fossil record has forced people like Dr. Schwartz to propose alternate theories.

The "sudden origins" some of them are now proposing gives rise to another big problem. If new species can and have arisen suddenly, they are left with no way to explain why we have not observed this happening. If it is a slow and gradual process, the fossil record should contain the evidence of that. If it is a short and sudden process, we should be able to observe it. This is quite the dilemma for the evolutionist.

Personally, I believe in sudden origins. I believe the heavens and earth and everything in them were created in only six days, **Exodus 20:11**.

This explains both the fossil record and our observations. God created all species suddenly and then stopped. There are no new species today because God had completed His work of creation. No dilemma here for me, only the evolutionists.