

# Evolution 101

## Lesson 8

**Beware of Anthropologists Bearing Bones.** Since the Big Bang (something from nothing) and a biogenesis (life from no life) have been logically discredited, subsequent evidences for evolution are merely academic. Nevertheless, it is instructive to follow the evolutionary trail and observe the bias of determined evolutionists.

When a person is determined to believe something, he becomes increasingly vulnerable to even a ridiculous hoax. And when he sets out to convince others to believe what he wants them to believe, he is not above the use of subterfuge and deceit to gain his goal.

Take the case of Piltdown Man. Near Piltdown Common, Sussex, England, Charles Dawson found a bone around 1910, which aroused his curiosity. Returning again in 1913, he found more fragments. The total result of his search consisted of a piece of jawbone, a small piece of occipital bone from a skull and a tooth. Later, another tooth was found. All together, the relics could easily be carried in a man's coat pocket. As usual, that was enough.

The "reconstruction" followed closely the lines of an ape and was claimed to be a link between modern man and brute. Since man's skull has a brain capacity of around 1500 cc and since an ape's skull has a capacity of around 600 cc, they affixed the brain capacity of Piltdown Man, in their own words "very accurately and precisely" at 1070 cc. or just about halfway between. The two teeth were placed on the right side of the lower jaw.

Replicas of the reconstructions made their way around the world and pictures of it accompanied by descriptions about it appeared in textbooks used not only at college level, but also by grade schools as well. There was no question; here was one of man's ancestors as he was a half a million years ago. Didn't distinguished scientists the world over (provided they were evolutionists) approve and agree with the conclusions based upon it? Haven't over fifty doctoral theses extolling its virtues been written about it?

Since it provided about the best example yet of the missing link so long sought, the original was guarded as carefully as the crown jewels of the United Kingdom. Belief in the Piltdown Man became deeply entrenched the world over and frequent reference was made to it in newspapers, magazines, science books and classrooms. It was a topic of discussion at the famous Scopes Monkey Trial in Tennessee. Those who dared question evidence so universally accepted were quickly pooh-poohed as Bible believers or as throwback birdbrains of bygone years before the world became enlightened.

## The Rest of the Story

*It took the evolutionary scientists forty long years to discover the truth and then admit it.*

As it turned out, the Piltdown Man's jaw was not that of some prehistoric man at all: it was the jaw of an ordinary ape. And it wasn't a half million years old as they claimed; it was a recent ape whose jawbone had not completely seasoned. The two molars placed by the scientists on the right side of the lower jaw belonged on an upper jaw, the left side. And they had been filed flat so they would appear worn by the free-swinging jaw of a human, rather than by the fixed jaw of an ape.

And what about the teeth's brown color that gave them the look antiquity? They had been painted a dark stain! The Piltdown Man was a hoax from the beginning to the end.

For 40 years, the Piltdown Man had fooled the evolutionists because they are prone to be fooled. For a true scientist to fall for a fraud like the Piltdown Man would be of the same order as a banker accepting as genuine a bogus ten-dollar bill that had been hand drawn on toilet paper.

Gertrude Himmelfarb sums it up in **Darwin and the Darwinian Revolution**: *"Nor can it be maintained, as some Darwinians have done, that the exposure of Piltdown Man leaves them no better*

*or no worse off than they were before. It does, in fact, weaken their position in regard to both their theory and their methods.*

*“The zeal with which eminent scientists defended it, the facility with which even those who did not welcome it managed to accommodate to it, and the way in which the most respected techniques were soberly and painstakingly applied to it, with the apparent result of confirming both the genuineness of the fossils and the truth of evolution, are the very least suspicious.*

*“However earnestly scientists may now dissociate themselves and their theory from Piltdown Man, they cannot entirely wipe out the memory of forty years of labor expended on a deliberate and not particularly subtle fraud. And not forty years in the remote past, but forty years which came to an end as recently as 1953.”*

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