BIBLE TALK

This week the question is: What about cave men? Do they disprove the Bible account of creation?

(Information for this article is taken from Wayne Jackson's tract, What About Cave Men?, Haun Publishing Company, Pasadena, TX.)

The school textbooks used by children are often filled with references to half-savage "cave men" from whom modern man has allegedly descended. What can we say when our youngsters ask us about such teachings? Were there really cave men? And if there were, do they prove evolution true and the Bible false?

Evolutionists are very skilled in manipulating evidence to their own theoretical ends. There were certainly men and women of the past who lived in caves, but there are men and women today who still live in caves. A simple truth which we must all remember is that the kind of house someone lives proves nothing about their humanity. Just because a man lives in a cave, it does not mean that he is therefore "half-animal."

Many people today have dogs that live in their house with them, but just because a dog lives in a house, we do not draw the conclusion that the dog is "half-human."

Consider the following facts.

1) The Bible itself speaks of people who lived in caves.

After Sodom and Gomorrah were destroyed, the Bible says Lot and his daughters "dwelt in a cave" (Gen. 19:30). In the Book of Judges, in the Old Testament, the land of Israel was invaded and oppressed by the Midianites and the Bible says:

Judges 6:2 (NKJV)

² and the hand of Midian prevailed against Israel. Because of the Midianites, the children of Israel made for themselves the dens, the caves, and the strongholds which are in the mountains.

There are many other references in the Bible to people living in caves - 1 Sam. 14:11; 22:1-2; 23:29 are just three out of many examples.

As mentioned earlier, just because someone takes refuge in a cave and lives there, this does not prove anything about their humanity, nor does it prove a single thing about evolution.

Archaeological evidence from cave sites reveal strictly a "human" mode of habitation.

In these caves there is evidence of cooking, sewing, tools, pottery, art work, religious artifacts, and even furniture. Such evidence proves only that humans lived in a cave. **Nothing** indicates that these were half-human savages evolving from lower life forms.

3) The more isolated and primitive peoples of the world have continued to live in caves even in modern times.

Pueblo Indians lived in caves. Were they half-humans, or semi-humans? Of course not. According to <u>McClintock & Strong, Cyclopedia</u>, vol. 1, p. 168, as recent as a century ago people were still living in caves in Palestine.

The point of all this is that just because some tribe of people are poor and have to live in caves, does not prove one thing about their humanness. They are just as human as any American living in a million dollar mansion. They are simply, either poor, or else have chosen to live by standards that are considered uncivilized by Americans. But nonetheless, they are just as human as we are. They are not "missing links" in the evolutionary theory.

Dr. Carleton S. Coon, an anthropologist with the University of Pennsylvania, has argued that the Neanderthal race had a higher level of culture than some twentieth century tribes. Neanderthal man was a superior tool maker, skilled as a hunter, used paint, and had many uses for flint. Mr. D. T. Dale of the Smithsonian Institute tells of a Neanderthal skeleton found in Iraq that had undergone surgical amputation of an arm above the elbow. Mr. Dale's remarks are found in Dr. G. Richard Culp's book, *Remember Thy Creator*, published by Baker Bookhouse, 1975, p. 99.

SUMMARY

We must not, then, be intimidated, by the "cave men" propaganda in evolutionary-dominated textbooks. We must read and study and provide our children with good, biblically sound, scientifically accurate information that will answer their sincere questions and fortify their faith in this age of unbelief.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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