



Statement on evolution theory

Core message:

The New Apostolic Church does not view evolution theory as a suitable explanation of creation, because this theory takes no account of God as Creator in its representations.

On the other hand, the New Apostolic Church sees in what science tells us about evolution (ongoing development in animate and inanimate nature) no incompatibility with Biblical witness and therefore with the Church's teachings.

Explanations:

- While evolution theory describes the laws according to which evolution proceeds, it supplies no explanation of the cause of creation, because it does not include a creator in its approach. At the same time, it can not rule out a creator.
- God through His word created everything and laid in His creation a comprehensive lawful dispensation. "Evolution" is therefore development according to God-given natural laws.
- We do not take Biblical "days of creation" to mean earth days of 24 hours, but unspecified periods of time, which may have been very long indeed.
- Science and faith define "mankind" in different ways:
 - The Bible speaks only of "man" created in the "image of God", thus being an immortal soul in his spiritual existence.
 - On the contrary, evolution theory defines "man" differently, i.e. in terms of biological properties.
 - The Bible is concerned only with ensouled mankind, and has nothing to say about the various biological human species that are attested.
- The Bible states that God, in a singular act of creation, provided the spiritual being of man as an immortal soul.
- From the Biblical genealogies we cannot derive that mankind exists only since about 4,000 years before Christ. It is therefore conceivable that modern mankind (homo sapiens sapiens) was endowed right from the start with a soul, possibly even more than 130,000 years ago.