

Celebrating a modern day prophet, Charles Darwin

On February 12, 1809, two great luminaries in the annals of history were born. While Lincoln was called “The Great Emancipator” for liberating a people from bondage, Charles Darwin liberated our entire species from enslavement to religious indoctrination, and freed those who care to open their eyes, to see the true origins of all life on earth, and the heroic struggle of our species to adapt and survive over vast eons of time.

Darwin challenged the childish conceit of our species that humans were created in the image of God, and all other living things were created solely to serve our needs. Such religious solipsism debauches science, corrupts our youth, panders to our ego, plagues humanity with fatal conflicts over ancient literature, stunts progress and renders us a danger to ourselves and our planet.

While Lincoln strove to preserve the unity of our nation, with the abolition of slavery for one group of people almost as an afterthought, Darwin set out from the beginning to liberate humanity from self-imposed shackles of the mind, which shielded us from the truth.

With the Biblical myth of Adam and Eve, our ancestors postulated an idyllic, eternal paradise as long as humans rejected the fruits of the tree of knowledge. Unlike Adam, who ate of the tree of knowledge inadvertently, Darwin eagerly partook of the fruits of knowledge, devoting his prodigious mind and passion for the truth to the astonishing discovery that life evolved on our planet over billions of years. He was richly rewarded for following the evidence rather religious dogma by being the first person to figure out how we and all life arose on Earth. Sadly, the power elites of his age did not share his enthusiasm for the truth.

Church authorities were outraged that Darwin exposed their scam of Adam’s original sin, with Jesus as the only cure, which threatened their ability to fleece their flock. They mercilessly vilified Darwin, just as they murdered Tyndale for his temerity in translating the Bible into English so the people could understand it for themselves, and burned his translations. Darwin possessed far more virtue than his charlatan detractors, who prey upon, rather than pray for humanity.

Reluctant to upset the apple cart by taking another bite at the forbidden apple, Darwin hesitated for years to publish his findings, but at the urging of friends he finally challenged the Biblical “Origins of the Specious” with his brilliant “Origin of the Species”, opining, “At last gleams of light have come, and I am almost convinced that species are not (it is like confessing a murder) immutable.” Waxing lyrical he mused, “There is grandeur in this view of life, with its several powers, having been originally breathed into a few forms or into one; and that, whilst this planet has gone cycling on according to the fixed law of gravity, from so simple a beginning endless forms most beautiful and most wonderful have been, and are being, evolved.”

Darwin abandoned his studies for the Priesthood when his rational, compassionate mind could not accept Church doctrine, explaining, “I can indeed hardly see how anyone ought to wish Christianity to be true for if so the plain language of the text seems to show that the men who do not believe, and this would include my father, brother and almost all of my friends, will be everlastingly punished. And this is a damnable doctrine.”

Darwin not only rejected the Christian God, he came to reject any Intelligent Designer, because of a wasp, which fed its young by paralyzing a caterpillar and laying its eggs in its still living body, explaining "I cannot persuade myself that a beneficent and omnipotent God would have designedly created parasitic wasps with the express intention of their feeding within the living bodies of caterpillars." He also could not accept the paralysis of the mind and human progress.

His son Francis described Darwin's love of truth and humanity: "He kept up his delightful, affectionate manner towards us all his life. I sometimes wonder that he could, with such an undemonstrable race as we are, but I hope he knew how much we delighted in his loving words and manner."

Let us honor Darwin's memory by courageously facing the truth and living by his immortal words, "To kill an error is as good a service as, and sometimes even better than, the establishing of a new truth or fact."

With Shalom,
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