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Faith Bible Church

<http://www.fbcweb.org/doctrines.html>

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Apologetics and logic: Evolution and Presidential Candidates in the News

<http://www.fbcweb.org/Doctrines/evolution-question.pdf>

1. Recently at a republican presidential debate, the candidates were asked if they believed in evolution, 'I am curious, Is there anyone on the stage who does not believe in evolution?' Much has been made of the fact that three candidates raised their hands. *The candidates were not allowed to elaborate!* If they had the opportunity what should they have said? Without the opportunity to define "evolution," one would be forced to commit a number of fallacies to argue the case either way—I counted at least ten material fallacies (equivocation, ad verecundiam, ad baculum, ad ignominian, ad populum, dicto simpliciter, the black and white fallacy, stereotyping, hasty generalization). Is the media that ignorant or malevolent, or both?
2. *Terms must be defined!* The problem is that "evolution" can mean many things (the one unforgiveable sin in logic is that you cannot have any equivocation with terms; the terms must mean only one thing: they must be univocal). The term "evolution" can refer to simple changes over time (which no one disputes) to the specific Darwinian claim that all of life's diversity from bald eagles to newborn baby boys is owed to the mindless process of natural selection and random mutations and nothing more. In Darwinianism man is the result of a purposeless and random process that did not have him in mind. It is the specific Darwinian claim that change in the biological world is owed not to intelligence and that there is no goal but survival. This the majority of Americans reject. Americans are still *smart* enough not to swallow that. Americans still believe in the quaint notion that man has a purpose and that he was endowed by His creator with certain unalienable rights—he is not the result of fortuitous mutations alone.
3. By limiting the question to the vague "evolution," it is absolutely impossible to enter into a rational and critical thinking discussion. The fact that most schools and universities will not allow dissenting opinion when there is evidence of inexplicable design only shows the bias. No critical thinking skills allowed at the door of Darwinian evolution! What are they afraid of? Maybe they know the evidence does not support Darwinian evolution. So what are they really afraid of? God! As long as they can hold on to Darwinianism, they think they can keep God's foot out of the door. However, can they? My guess is that if you asked them if there was any purpose to their lives, they would say yes—there are very few nihilists. However, they cannot give any *rational reasons* why. Once God is rejected, the mind begins the process of corruption (Rom . 1:28). They profess themselves to be wise but are fools (1:22). With all of their journalistic "skills" they still cannot even ask a question in a rational manner (e.g., 'Is there anyone on the stage who believes in Darwinianism, please explain your answer"). Let's expose the fools for what they are so our kids will not be taken advantage of by them. Let's teach our kids to think, think, think. Their lives and the future of Christianity in America is at stake!!!

**In the Logos,**

Pastor Don