

(3) A Suggested Solution

What explanation, other than that of Evolution, can be given for the real existence of structural similarity?

The Christian can explain structural similarity between "kinds" on the basis that God, using a relatively small number of fundamental structural patterns, created certain basic "kinds" of plants and animals, each "kind" with a unique combination of a number of features from one or more basic patterns, and each combination of features adapted for life in a particular type of environment.

The Christian can explain structural similarity within "kinds" on the basis that God created each basic "kind" with a potential for an enormous amount of variety; and that this potential for variety has, in the case of a number of the basic "kinds" and in the course of many generations, been partially realized.

Thus, whereas structural similarity between the "kinds" may be explained by the principle of DESIGN WITH MODIFICATION (Immediate Creation), structural similarity within the "kinds" may be explained by the principle of DESCENT WITH MODIFICATION (Mediate Creation).

This explanation could be expressed by the following figure:

Similarity Between "Kinds"	Similarity Within "Kinds"
If C1, then SS	If C1, then SS
<u>If SS then DnM</u>	<u>If SS then DtM</u>
C1	C1
Therefore DnM	Therefore DtM

c. Sample quotations of various creationist viewpoints on this aspect

"Unfortunately a great deal of misunderstanding has resulted from use of the term 'evolution' to denote mere improvement of a species or the development of new varieties of the same species. There are many varieties of the same species; for instance, there are different kinds of apples, or the different kinds of pickles. We have within the canine or dog species many varieties: foxes, wolves, and dingoes, from the diminutive Mexican Chihuahua to the massive St. Bernard, or Great Dane, but they are all dogs. So there are many varieties of cats within the feline kind, such as the different breeds of domestic cats: Siamese, Angora, and Maltese, not to mention other members of the family such as lions, leopards, tigers, wild cats, etc. But all are still cats. . . But this is not evolution; this is merely improvement, development, and cultivation.

". . .Not one single proven example of an evolution from one species to another has ever been foundWe therefore do not reject an 'evolution' which refers to a development or improvement within the species, but we do reject an evolution which assumes a transgression of the basic, inviolable law of Cod, 'Let it bring forth after its kind.'

"Science today itself defines a species as a group capable of reproducing offspring of any two parentsSince members of different species (kinds in Bible language) do not interbreed, there can be no evolution. Without a change or production of a