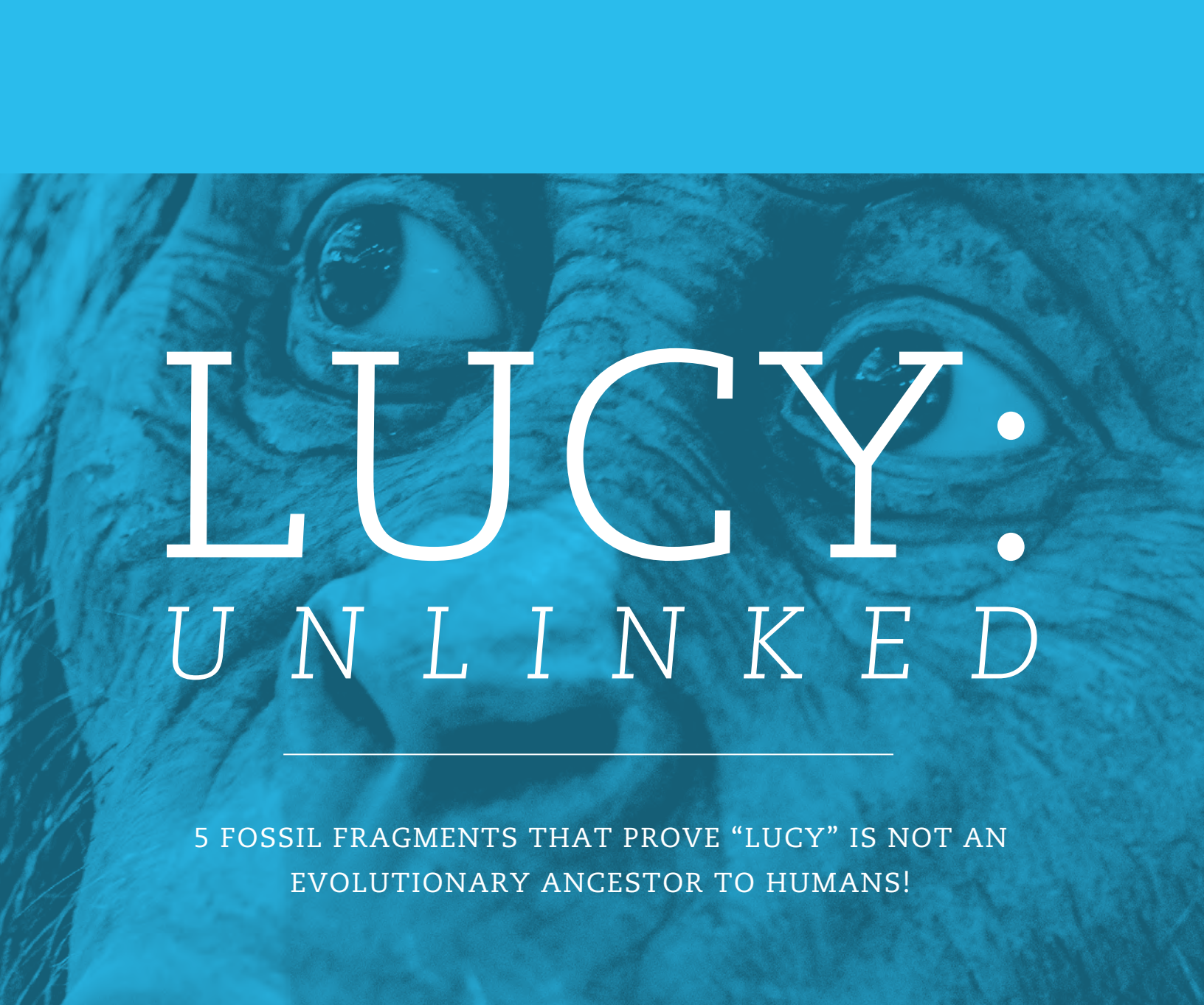




LUCY: UNLINKED

5 FOSSIL FRAGMENTS THAT PROVE “LUCY” IS NOT AN
EVOLUTIONARY ANCESTOR TO HUMANS!

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*reasonsforhope**

CRITICAL THINKING IS CRITICALLY IMPORTANT!

Learning to critically evaluate evidence and DeBunk mistaken interpretations is vital to knowing the truth. When it comes to the Creation vs. Evolution issue, critical thinking is especially important. We live in a world where 50-88% of young people raised in the church have walked away by the time they're age 18. Honestly, I don't believe they've walked away from Christ, because they never knew Him. Instead, they've walked away from "box checking", rules and rituals, which is NOT Christianity.

To overcome the current loss of the next generation, discipleship and training in critical thinking must take place. The Body of Christ must become more focused on teaching a generation how to apply their faith in a world that's openly aggressive and antagonistic towards Christianity.

Why is there such a disconnect between many who are raised in the Church and those who have true faith in Christ? One key reason is that 80-85% of Christian homes send their children to government schools where they spend approximately 900 hours a year being taught a secular, godless mentality that undermines what's taught in Scripture.

“The Body of Christ must become more focused on teaching a generation how to apply their faith in a world that's openly aggressive and antagonistic towards Christianity.”

If the Bible is even mentioned in this system, it's more as a joke or a book filled with myths that shouldn't be taken seriously by any “reasonable” or “thinking” person. This same child is then exposed to over 1,000 hours of TV and over 900 hours a year of video games, both reinforcing the messages they have heard in school.

COMPROMISE IS HURTING CHRISTIANITY!

To make matters worse, MANY supposedly “Christian” schools teach exactly the same way when it comes to the topic of evolution or “so-called” science. Their “go to” position is usually that “science conflicts with the Bible” and “the two should be separated”. It's popular to attempt to reconcile the creation vs. evolution issue by simply saying that “God used evolution” or that “We can fit evolution into the Bible”, as if that solves the problem. (By the way, that's what I was taught as a 26-year-old brand-new believer by my very first, well-meaning, Sunday School teacher.) The truth is, that position makes things much worse.

Simply put, we do NOT have to separate our faith from what we see in the real world. As a matter of fact, if we allow the Word of God to be what it claims to be, the foundation for all our thinking, it changes the way that we see everything around us.

Yes, we see many things that are hard to understand and explain in the Bible. I don't think we'll ever fully understand everything on this side of heaven, but having the proper Biblical foundation definitely helps us understand and process what we see around us. Having this understanding should embolden us to trust God about what He says will happen in the future. This is a key reason to look at evidence. We should ask the question, *"Is what we see in the world consistent with what God said that He did or with the naturalistic explanation that's jammed down our throats through almost every medium?"* How we answer that question has eternal consequences.



PARENTS, YOU ARE THE KEY!

By the way, if you're a parent, this information is especially meant for you. One thing that breaks my heart when working with the younger generation is how often I hear that they have very little interaction with their parents on issues such as this. Far too often the parents have abdicated their responsibility to raise their children "in the fear and admonition of the Lord" (Ephesians 6:4) and turned that responsibility over to someone else.

Southern Baptist research shows that *"the average time a child spent in meaningful conversation with their parents each week was less than 10 minutes!"* How in the world can we expect a generation to stand firm in their faith with that little interaction from the ones who are primarily responsible for their training? However, it's the next part of the quote that breaks my heart every time that I share it. It says, *"If you remove the mother, you can measure this statistic in seconds."*

Dear father that's reading this, **please take the privilege and honor that you have to train your child seriously.** We have such a short time with them; don't throw that opportunity away for anything that's temporary at best. There are only two things you can take with you to heaven and neither of them are your bank account, your title or your toys. They are your wife and children ... they alone are eternal!

Parent, we want YOU to be the hero to your child! You can and should take this information regarding the supposed "evidence" that's been used for over 40 years to support that "Lucy" is a missing link between apes and humans and teach your children how to apply it. **YOU CAN DO IT!**



YOU WILL BE CRITICIZED IF YOU DON'T TOW THE PARTY LINE!

Some time ago, a friend of mine posted some of the information that I use in my talk on human evolution on his Facebook page and it stirred folks up, to say the least! We had LOTS of visitors come to our site and

make comments. Some were friendly and some ... well, “not so friendly” is being very gracious.

When folks get as upset as they did over this information, you know that you’re challenging something very dear to them. I believe that the best way to handle the comments and challenges that were raised is to present the facts and allow them to make an informed decision on what is being taught regardless of the source.

My goal with this booklet is to help people make an *informed* decision and challenge people to think. By the way, this booklet contains just some of the information that should be considered before making a final decision as to what “Lucy” actually was. I pray it’s a catalyst that challenges you to dig deeper.

Just so you know, we’ll NOT be using ANY Christian or Creationist materials. We’ll look at secular evidence and critically evaluate the claims that are made. We’ll see if the evidence fits better in light of a Creator or simply naturalistic processes.



SHOULD CHRISTIANS CARE ABOUT “MISSING LINKS”?

If you're a Christian, you may be asking why would we spend time on something as apparently inconsequential as a supposed “missing link” between apes and humans? A primary reason is because we're commanded to do so! In 2 Timothy 2:15, God makes it very clear that Christians are to “*study to show thyself approved unto God*”. We do this in obedience to God's commands, knowing that one of the outcomes of such obedience, as we mentioned above, is that when we know WHY we believe what we say we believe, we can be bold in our faith and not ashamed.

Obviously, we should study the Word of God much more than anything the world has to say, so I'm not trying to diminish the importance of Bible study in any way. But if we're to be effective in reaching the lost for Christ, we need to understand the stumbling blocks that keep them from listening to the Gospel.

In Matthew 16:13, Jesus asked the disciples, “*Who do people say that the Son of Man is?*” One implication of that question is that believers need to be aware of what the world is saying and teaching if we're to respond effectively. Lucy is one of the most common tools used to teach the next generation that man evolved from ape-like creatures. If this supposed history is true, then the Biblical account of Creation cannot be true. Studying what the world teaches about Lucy and having answers as to why we believe what we say we believe gives us a basis from which to challenge common misconceptions in our culture.



WHAT IS SCIENCE?

One dictionary's definition for "science" is:

"knowledge or a system of knowledge covering general truths or the operation of general laws especially as obtained and tested through scientific method".¹

It's also worth checking out the definition of the word "science" in an 1828 Webster's Dictionary, which you can find for free online. That definition actually references God! Today we hear from secular scientists that Christians, and especially Creationists, can't do "science". Simply put, that's only because the secular culture has redefined the word "science", insisting that everything must be explained using naturalistic processes and thus excluding anything referencing God.

¹ Merriam-Webster Dictionary

In support of that statement, consider this quote from a secular science book used in public schools today:

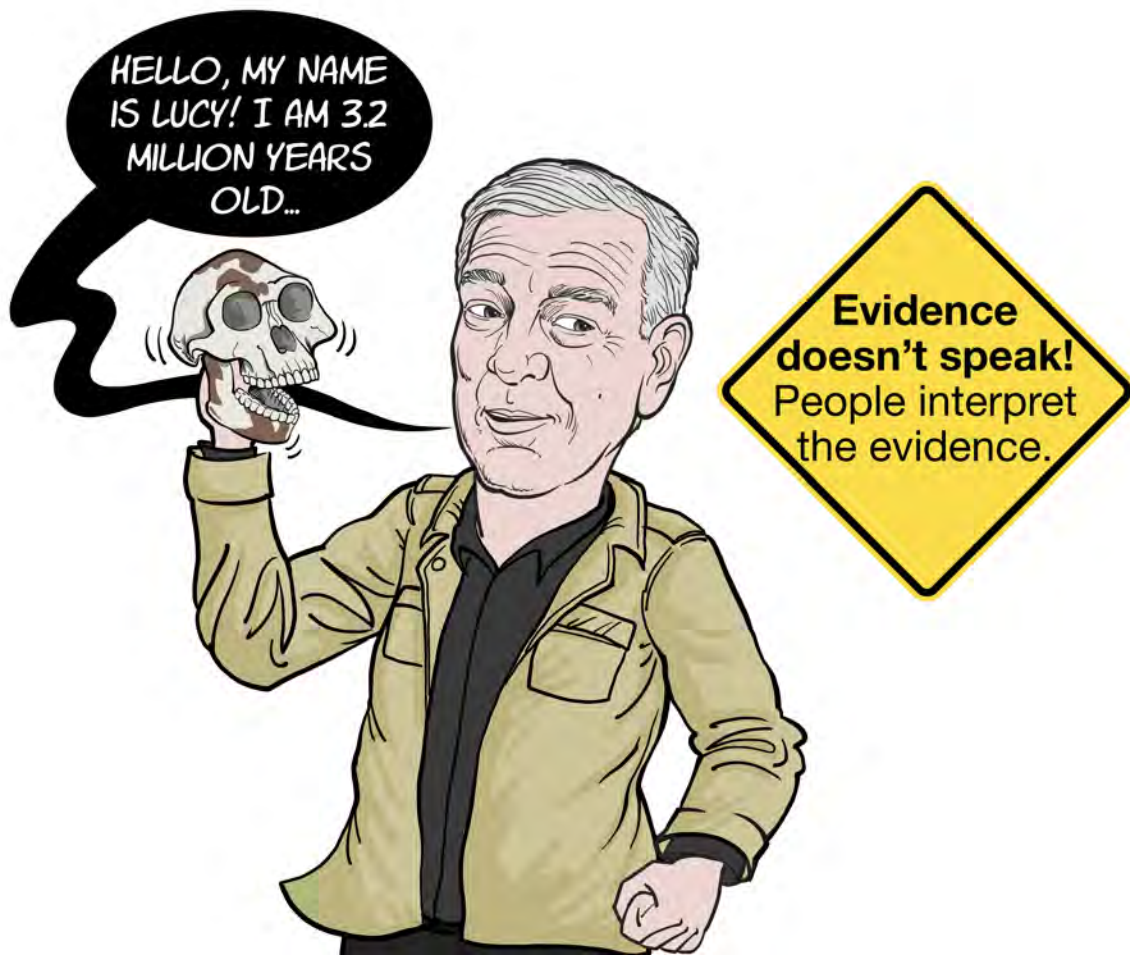
*“The goal of science is to explain natural phenomena. Scientists ask questions about natural events and then work to answer those questions through experiments and examination ... Scientists also expect that nature is predictable, which means that the future behavior of natural forces can be anticipated.”*²

This is NOT what was originally meant or taught about science. Dig for yourself on that one and you will see that what I’m saying is true.

What is even more interesting is to research who formalized the “scientific method”. You’ll find that a Christian/Creationist is responsible for developing the scientific method.³ In addition, as you research, you’ll also find that MOST fields of science today originated from a Christian/Creationist perspective. Don’t be fooled into believing that we have to explain everything using a secular, naturalistic mentality. It’s simply not true.

² Mead A. Allison, Arthur T. DeGaetano, Jay M. Pasachoff, *Earth Science*, Teacher Edition, (Austin, Texas: Holt, Rinehart, and Winston, 2006), p. 9.

³ <https://science.howstuffworks.com/innovation/scientific-experiments/scientific-method3.htm>



“SCIENCE” AND “EVIDENCE” DON’T SPEAK!

It’s critically important to understand that “evidence” and “science” CANNOT “speak” or “say” anything. We hear statements like “science says . . .” or “the evidence proves . . .” all the time. Yet science and evidence do not and cannot “speak for themselves”, they must be interpreted ... and interpretations are heavily influenced by the beliefs and worldview of the individual making the interpretation. Remember, reconstructions are not actual evidence, they’re interpretations of the evidence!



"Lucy" reconstruction – Chicago Field Museum
Photo taken by Carl Kerby

Whenever we see reconstructions of Lucy in museums and zoos, or see "her" pictures in articles, "she" is depicted as an upright-walking, apelike ancestor ... essentially a missing link that eventually led to both apes and humans. But when looking at these reconstructions, it's vital to recognize how much of the reconstruction is based on actual evidence and how much is biased artistic liberty.

Artistic reconstructions are NOT actual evidence; they're merely what someone *thinks* the evidence may have looked like. We must realize that any reconstruction is dramatically impacted by the worldview of the artist.

Consider this quote from Discover magazine by a secular scientist (emphasis mine):

"The truth is that even if you find a totally complete dinosaur skeleton, you can't just string it together. To do that, you'd have to know exactly



Lucy display in CosmoCaixa Barcelona.
Photo taken from Flickr.

how its muscles, cartilage, and ligaments were arranged – and those are gone forever. Any reconstruction is a hypothesis.”⁴

Admittedly, this quote is talking about dinosaurs and not Lucy; however, the same problem exists with ANY reconstruction of ANY specimen that is now extinct. They are forced to use their imaginations in order to fill in what’s missing.

James Kirkland, in his article from Earth magazine, said this:

“Pairing the models with the skulls on which they are based shows how much imagination goes into building dinosaurs from the bones up. But in many cases the bones themselves are reconstructions, too – and works of just as much hard thought and imaginative daring as the models they inspired.”⁵

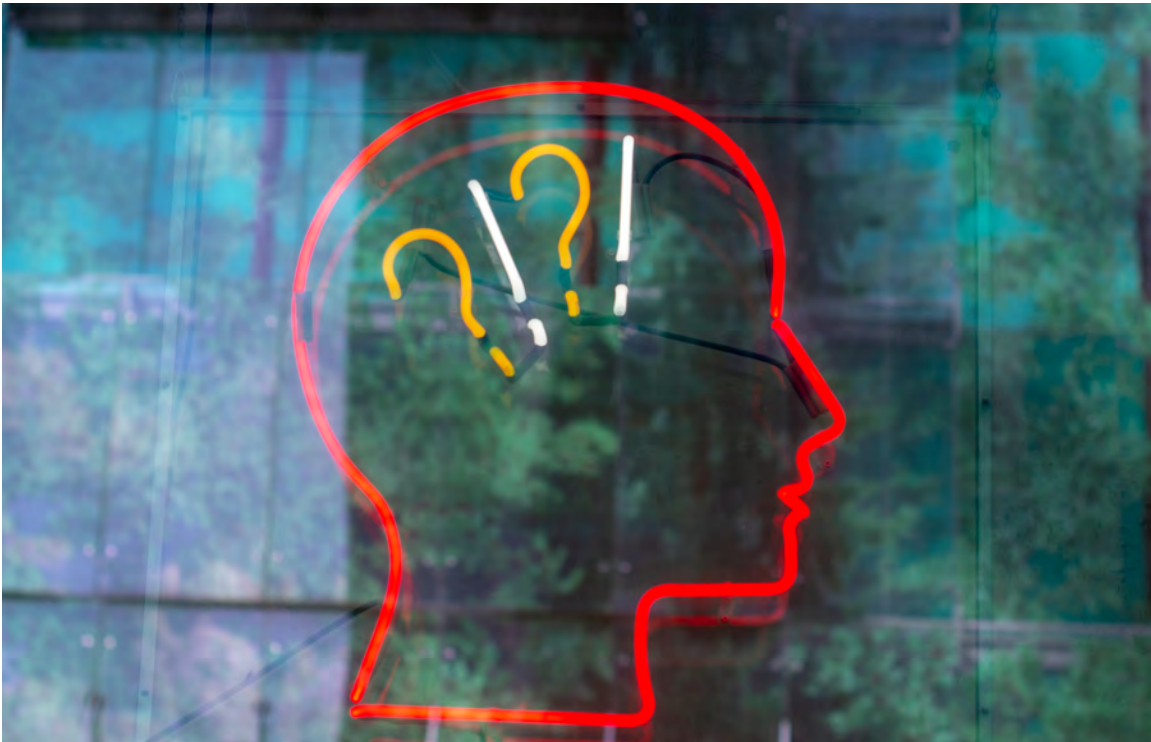
With all of that in mind, let’s take a look at the evidence for Lucy and see what, if anything, it actually supports. Is Lucy our evolutionary ancestor, or not?

⁴ Paul Hoffman, “Fowl Play”, Discover, May 1992, p. 4

⁵ James Kirkland, Horns of Plenty, Earth Magazine, 1997, p. 27

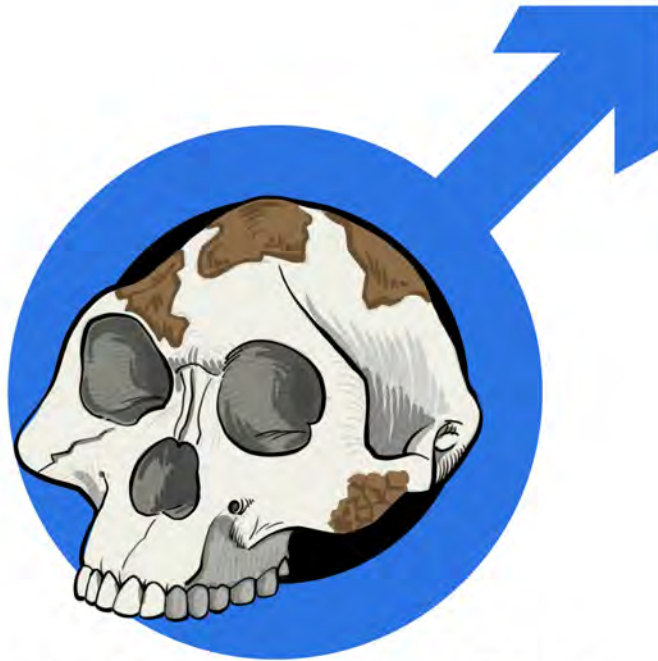
WHO WAS “LUCY”?

“Lucy” was an individual specimen within the family *Australopithecus afarensis* (translated from the Latin: “southern ape from the Afar region”). When I use the specific term “Lucy” in this booklet, I’ll be speaking of *just that single individual skeleton* discovered by Don Johansen and his team in 1974. The reason for this clarification is because in total, there are fossils from approximately 300 individuals that have been assigned to this species so far. When we talk about those specimens, I’ll use the general name *Australopithecus afarensis* (abbreviated “Au. *afarensis*”).



WAS “SHE” EVEN A “SHE”?

From the very beginning of Lucy’s discovery in Hadar, Ethiopia, in 1974, it has been stated that “she” was a “female”.



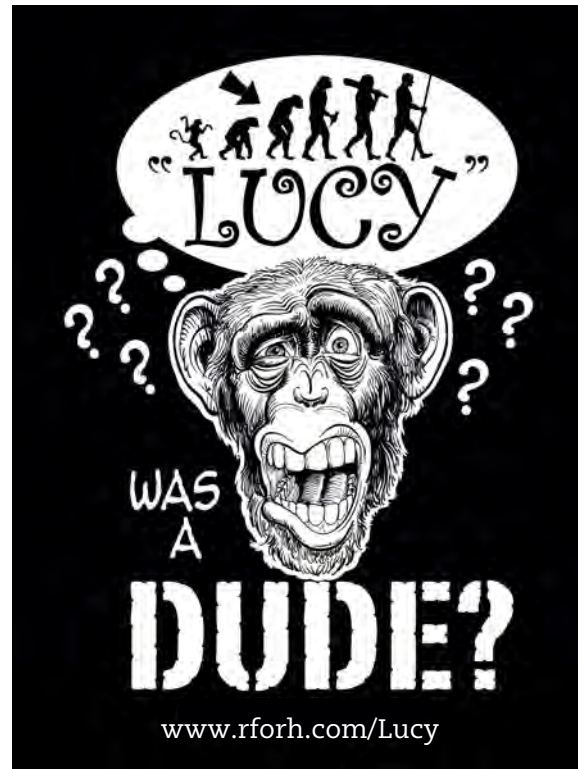
“LUCY?”

However, in Discovery Magazine,⁶ it was revealed that two Swiss scientists discovered that “Lucy” wasn’t a “she” after all but was, in fact, a “he.” One of the names these scientists suggested to replace the name Lucy for this fossil was “Lucifer.” Personally, I find that name very accurate, since I believe that satan has used this set of bones more than any other to raise doubt about the Bible and Christianity.

Without a doubt, Lucy is absolutely the most recognized of the supposed human ancestors. No matter what country I am in, if someone challenges my teachings on human evolution and I ask them what their best evidence is to support that humans have evolved, their inevitable response is *Lucy*.

⁶ Discover Magazine, March 1996, page 15

At the risk of sounding impolite, I say that if the correct sex of the fossil couldn't be figured out for over 40 years, they were also wrong about other claims as well! I'll prove that is true as we continue.



Some may argue that that was a simple mistake and that the rest of the evidence supports human evolution anyway ... and if that were the case, Creationists would have some explaining to do. However, to show you that we don't have anything to worry about, let's evaluate five different physical characteristics and the claims that are made about Lucy to see if it actually is a missing link in the supposed evolution of apes and humans. We'll answer the following questions:

1. Did Lucy Have A Human Knee?
2. Did Lucy Have Human Feet?
3. Did Lucy Have Human Hands?
4. Did Lucy Have Human Hips?
5. Did Lucy Have A Human Skull?

WHAT'S THE ACTUAL EVIDENCE THAT WAS FOUND FOR "LUCY"?

Before we can determine whether Lucy truly was an evolutionary ancestor to humans or just an extinct ape, we need to look at what evidence is available. Take a look at the actual evidence that Donald Johanson, along with graduate student Tom Gray, discovered on November 30, 1974 in Hadar, Ethiopia.



"Lucy" - AL-288-1, Alamy Stock Photo, Image ID: DTFR2P

These bones are categorized as "AL-288-1", better known as Lucy.

If you read anything about Lucy, you will typically find the claim that 40% of the skeleton was found. As you can tell, they did find quite a bit of the actual fossil evidence.

This is very significant when you realize that, in comparison, almost every one of the other supposed ancestors actually have very little fossil evidence. In the case of some of those supposed ancestors, only a single skull has been found, while others are made of up fragments. One such example is *Ardipithecus kadabba* where 17 bone fragments were found from four different sites spread out over 10 miles. They were then put together into a single supposed ancestor.⁷

But, was 40% of Lucy's fossil actually found? Let's crunch some numbers to find out. There are 206 bones in adult human skeletons, which is the same number as an adult ape. If you count the bones in the image (below) you'll see very quickly that they DID NOT find 40%. The truth is that they found approximately 25% of the bones – which, remember, is very good when compared to what was found for other supposed ancestors.

If you count the bones in the image you'll see very quickly that they DID NOT find 40%.



"Lucy" - AL-288-1, Alamy Stock Photo, Image ID: DTFR2P

⁷ <https://humanorigins.si.edu/evidence/human-fossils/species/ardipithecus-kadabba>



"Lucy" - AL-288-1, Alamy Stock Photo, Image ID: DTFR2P

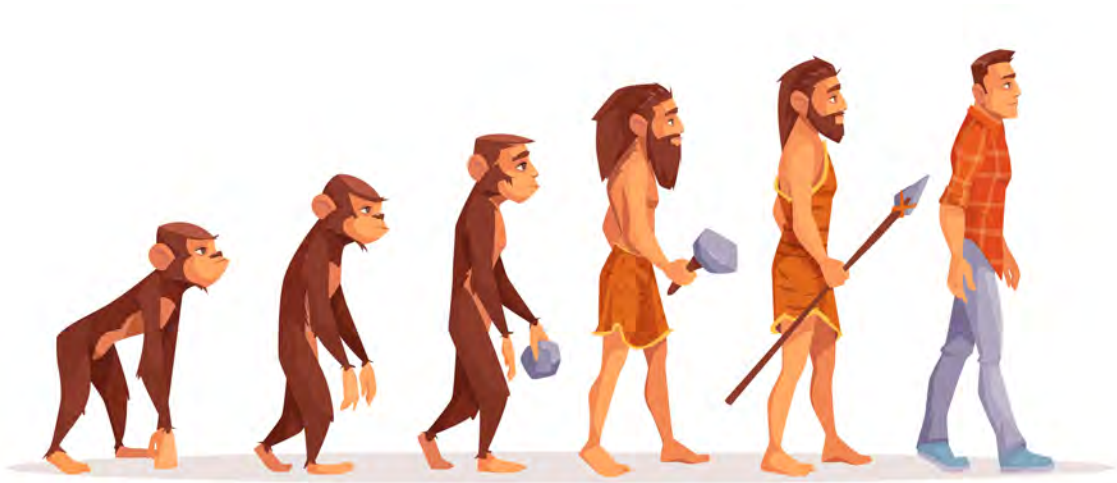
Each of our human hands contains approximately 27 bones while our feet each have 26 bones. When you look at Lucy's fossil, you'll immediately see that there were NO hand or foot bones found. Hand and foot bones were found from other specimens that have been categorized in this family and we'll talk about those shortly.

Now that we know what the actual evidence is, we can address our five areas and see what the evidence actually supports. We may slip in a couple of other pieces of evidence on this journey, just for fun.

1. DOES THE EVIDENCE SUPPORT LUCY HAVING HUMAN KNEES ... AND DOES IT MATTER?

Let's address the last question first: "Does It Matter?"

Believe it or not, the knees are vitally important in order to establish whether something could be a "common ancestor" or "missing link" between apes and humans.



This is because one of the easiest ways to tell if you've found the "missing link" (or not!) is: the specimen must walk upright (bipedal), like humans, but look like an ape. In order to walk upright, this specimen must have knees and hips that are shaped like a human's. Otherwise, the individual would be forced to walk on all four limbs (quadrupedal), like an ape. So, if Lucy's knees were shaped like an ape's, she would not have been able to walk upright, supporting my claim that it was, in fact, not a human ancestor.

By the way, in the past, the theory of evolution taught that humans evolved FROM apes. That posed a problem because, obviously, we now have both humans AND apes. The theory was adapted to fix the problem by no longer teaching that humans evolved from apes, and it is now commonly accepted among evolutionists that there was once a "common ancestor" to both apes and humans, which was supposedly *Au. afarensis*. This common ancestor supposedly had both human and

ape features and over millions of years, humans and apes evolved from this common ancestor.

To answer the first question, “Does the Evidence Support That Lucy Had Human Knees?” we’ll reference a quote from the NOVA television program, “[In Search of Human Origins](#)”.⁸ There, Don Johanson (one of the men who discovered Lucy), makes the following statement:

“[The knee looked human . . .](#)”⁹

Remember, a human knee is an absolute necessity if Lucy is to be classified as a human ancestor. In order for us to verify if Dr. Johanson’s claim is correct, let’s look again at the actual evidence that was found and then you tell me.



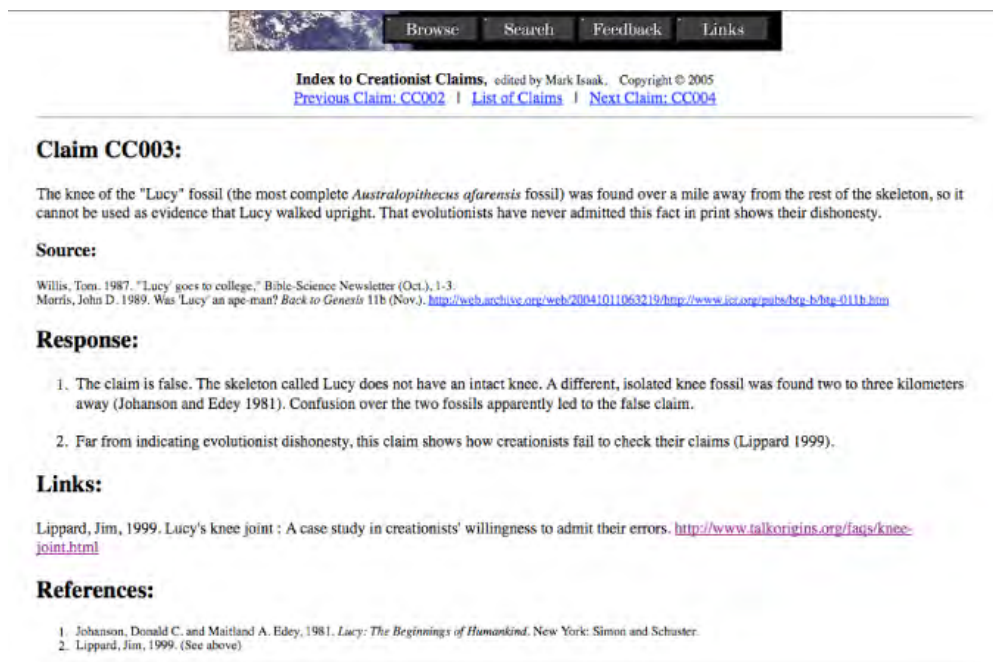
“Lucy” - AL-288-1, Alamy Stock Photo, Image ID: DTFR2P

The answer is very clearly ... No, Lucy’s knee was NOT human!

⁸ https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PR_9_5gxvvg

⁹ https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PR_9_5gxvvg&t=3s

Before going any further you should know that the year prior to discovering the fossils classified as AL-288-1 (Lucy), Don Johansen discovered what later become known as the “Hadar knee”. We’ll discuss that in detail shortly. Now, back to the claim of Lucy having a human knee and just in case you don’t believe your own eyes, take a look at this screenshot from a VERY anti-Christian, anti-creationist website. In an effort to refute a claim that “*Lucy’s knee was found over a mile away so it cannot be used as evidence that Lucy walked upright*”, this virulent evolutionist unknowingly revealed something very useful. Note especially his number 1 response:



Screenshot of TalkOrigins page.

It reads:

*“The claim is false. The skeleton called Lucy does not have an intact knee.”*¹⁰

Remember, this is NOT a source that’s friendly to Christians/Creationists!

¹⁰ <http://www.talkorigins.org/indexcc/CC/CC003.html>

The fact then remains, if Lucy doesn't even have an intact knee, then how can it be claimed, as Johansen did in the NOVA program, that it "looked human"?

The author of this anti-creationist website references Johansen's book, saying:

*"A different, isolated knee fossil was found two to three kilometers away."*¹¹



AL 129-1 (Hadar Knee)

Image found at <http://courses.knox.edu/anso101/09JsChallenge.pdf>

As I mentioned previously, this fossil, called the "Hadar Knee", is also classified as *Au. afarensis*, and it is just one of the other 300 specimens that have been found and arbitrarily classified within this family. The evidence shows that this knee was anatomically human, only smaller than an adult, period.¹² It's very clear that this does NOT belong in the same family as Lucy, it's a HUMAN bone!

If you compare the Hadar knee with the bones from Lucy, they can't be the same species. The size is very different and if you look at a cross section of the bones you can see very clearly that they're not even the same shape. The only reason that the Hadar knee was classified as *Au.*

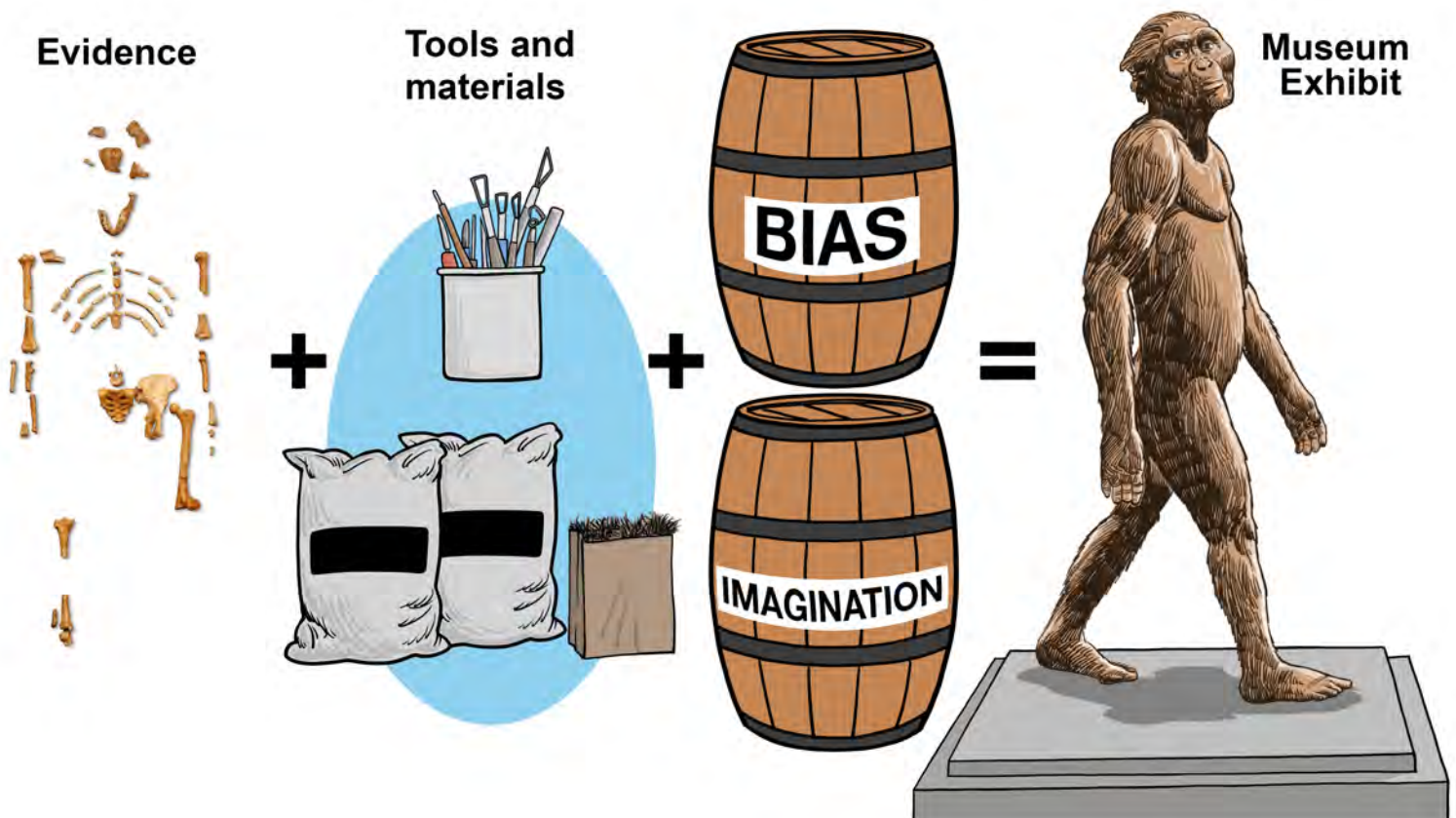
¹¹ Johanson, Donald; Edey, Maitland (1981), Lucy, the Beginnings of Humankind

¹² Johanson, Donald; Edey, Maitland (1981), Lucy, the Beginnings of Humankind, pp. 161-163

afarensis is because of the supposed age of the fossil and where it was found. What's the truth?

Even though National Geographic claimed that the Hadar knee was evidence for *Au. afarensis* having human characteristics,¹³ that's NOT the case. This fossil was discovered over one mile away from where Lucy was found, in a dirt layer over 220 feet deeper in the strata. *The two fossils had nothing to do with each other.* It was simply classified as *Au. afarensis* to make their argument for bipedality stronger and has NOTHING to do with the individual called Lucy.

So, the bottom line for Lucy's supposedly human knee is that the actual evidence for the fossil called Lucy DOES NOT support the claim that it is a missing link between apes and humans. Next!



¹³ National Geographic, November 1985, p. 593

2. WHAT ABOUT LUCY'S FEET ... WEREN'T THEY HUMAN?

If you do some searching, you'll find an article from National Geographic which states:

*"Lucy' Was No Swinger, Walked Like Us, Fossil Suggests"*¹⁴

The earliest evidence used to teach that Lucy walked upright are footprints found in a site over 1,300 miles away in Laetoli, Tanzania. These footprints are absolutely amazing fossils, there's no doubt about that. The question is, what do the fossils actually prove?



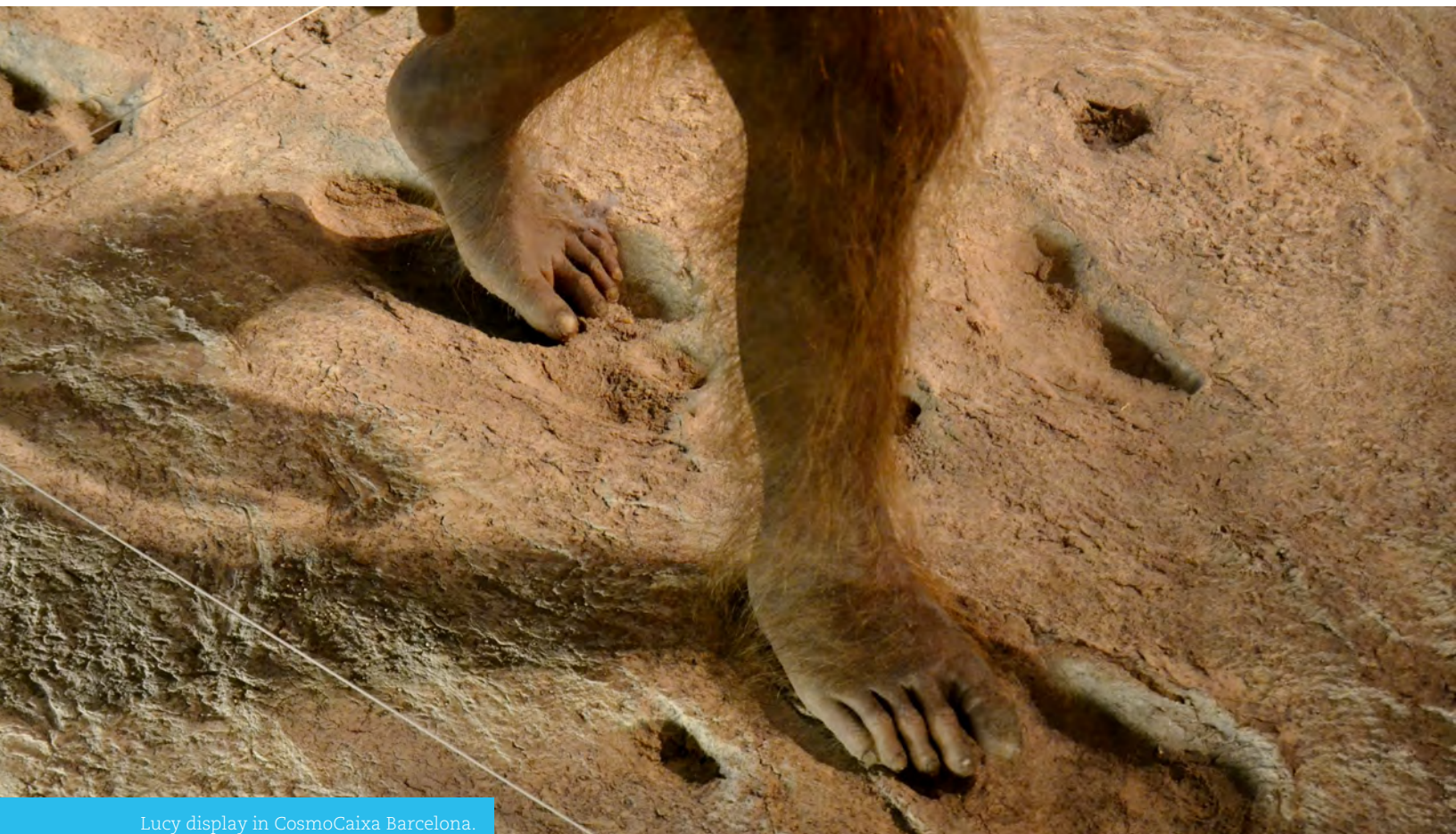
Laetoli footprints, Tanzania, Alamy Stock Photo, Image ID: AJ8605

¹⁴ <https://www.nationalgeographic.com/news/2011/2/110210-lucy-feet-walked-feet-science-afarensis-fossil/>

Paleontologist Tim White, who worked with Mary Leakey at the site they were found, stated that:

*“Make no mistake about it, they are like modern human footprints. If one were left in the sand of a California beach today, and a four-year-old were asked what it was, he would instantly say that somebody had walked there. He wouldn’t be able to tell it from a hundred other prints on the beach, nor would you. The external morphology is the same.”*¹⁵

To drive home the fact that secularists teach without question that Lucy had human feet, let me show you some museum displays:



Lucy display in CosmoCaixa Barcelona.
Photo taken from Flickr.

¹⁵ Johanson, Donald; Edey, Maitland (1981), Lucy, the Beginnings of Humankind, pp. 250



Lucy depicted with human feet at the American Museum of Natural History New York. Alamy Stock Photo Image ID: BEK8R7



Lucy with human feet at the Chicago Museum of Natural History. Photo taken by Carl Kerby.

If you stopped here, you would probably conclude that Lucy did in fact have feet like humans. Case closed. But the truth is, if you stopped there, you would be deceived.



Lucy with human feet in textbook. Biology Ninth Edition, Sylvia S. Mader page 587. Photo taken by Carl Kerby.

Remember to look at the actual evidence for Lucy and then you can determine whether the fossil evidence supports the claim that Lucy had human feet or not.

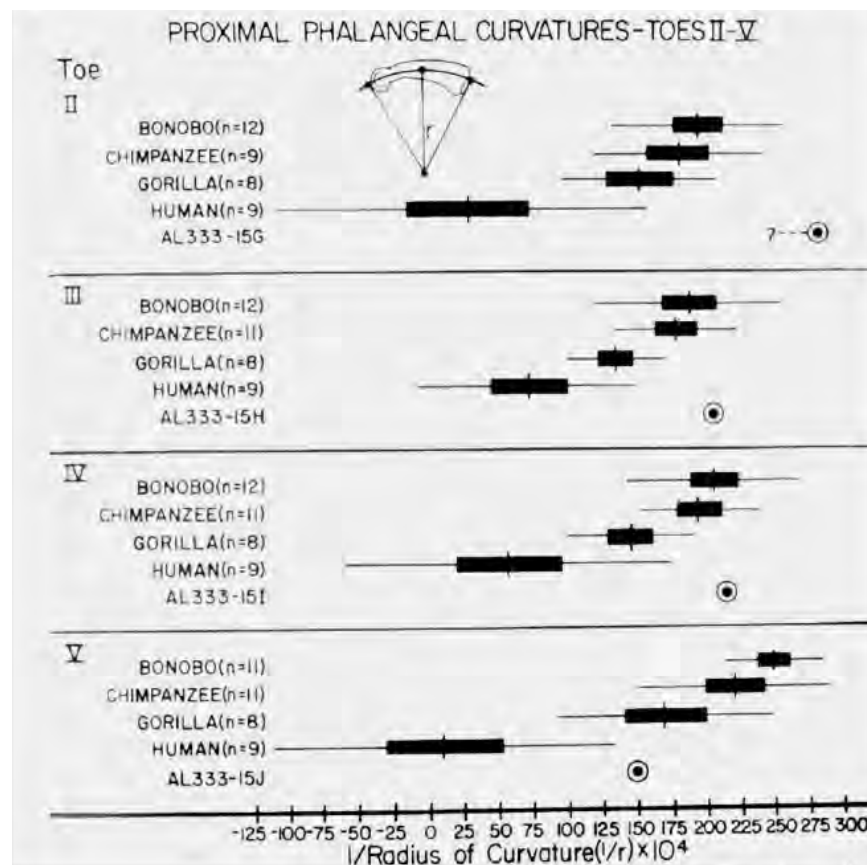
The answer is very clear, it DOES NOT and CANNOT support that claim and that is because they didn't find any foot bones for Lucy!

To make matters worse, let's look at another source showing that even other fossils classified as *Au. afarensis* (here referred to as "Lucy") DID NOT have human feet.

*"Lucy's compact feet indicate the ability to support her entire body weight while walking. However, her long, curved foot bones show monkey-like characteristics, suited to climbing trees."*¹⁶

This makes it VERY clear that the reconstructions we see of *Au. afarensis* depicting human feet are misleading, at best.

To drive a nail into the coffin on this lie, let's look at one last source. Note especially that the following chart records verifiable scientific data, which is vastly different and more dependable than an artist's hopeful interpretation.



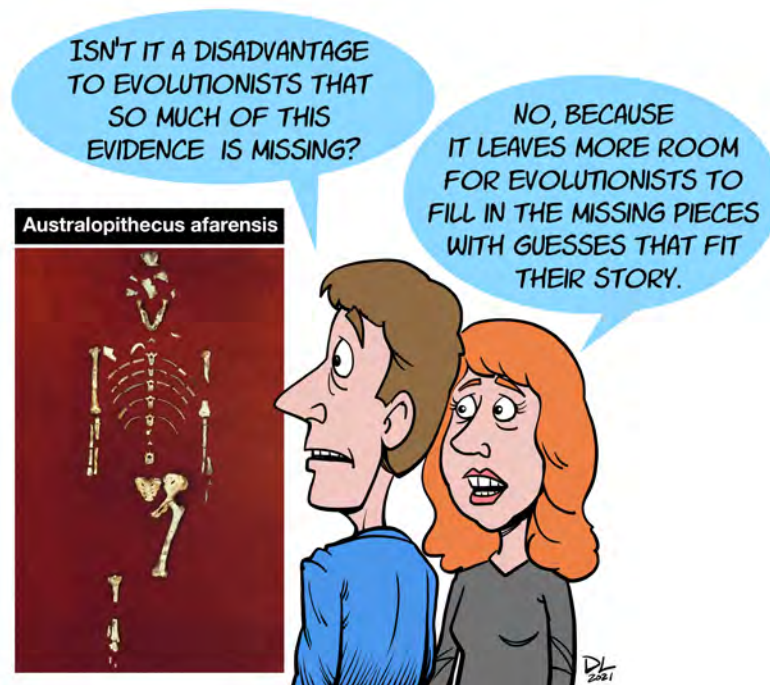
J. Stern & R. Susman, 1983, Am. J. Phys. Anthropology 60:279-212

¹⁶ <https://hyperaxion.com/anthropology/lucy-fossil/> "Point number 5, Lucy could climb trees"

This chart from the American Journal of Physical Anthropology depicts the curvature of the toe bones of Bonobo, Chimpanzee, Gorilla and Human in comparison with AL 333-15G, a fossil classified as *Au. afarensis*. You see a solid line to the right of the name of the specimen. The further to the right that line shifts, the more curved the toe bone was. You can clearly see that those toe bones are just as curved, if not more so, than a chimpanzee or bonobo.

It's very clear that there are a lot of fossils being mixed together to come up with what they believe existed ... with what they want to have existed ... in order to prove their worldview.

All of this put together makes it very clear that the owner of those foot bones DID NOT make the Laetoli footprints. It would be impossible for a creature with "long, curved foot bones" to make footprints where the "external morphology" is exactly the same as a human foot. No, the truth is, we're being lied to.



“BUT”, you may be saying, “What about the foot bones that were found from the other individuals in the *Au. afarensis* family that support that claim?” Just as with the knee, there may in fact be human toe bones that are categorized as *Au. afarensis*, but that doesn’t mean that they **are** the same species. It’s very clear that there are a lot of fossils being mixed together to come up with what they **believe** existed ... with what they **want** to have existed ... in order to prove their worldview.

WHAT ABOUT LUCY'S HANDS?

Take a look at how Lucy's hands are depicted in both magazines and museum reconstructions. First, here's an image that you'll see in a Sci News article: ►

This next image is from an artist that National Geographic has used quite often to create supposed missing links. ▼



"Lucy" with human features.
AdobeStock, File #: 178095804

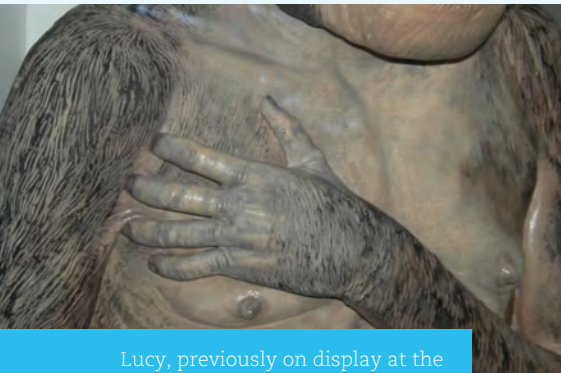


Australopithecus afarensis by John Gurche.
Featured in The Art of National Geographic: A
Century of Illustration, by Alice A Carter, 1999

But one of my favorites examples has to be the reconstruction that was on display at the London Museum of Natural History for many YEARS. Take a look: ►



Lucy, previously on display at the London
Museum of Natural History.
Photo taken by Carl Kerby.



Lucy, previously on display at the London Museum of Natural History.
Photo taken by Carl Kerby.

“Is that interpretation true, or has it been impacted by the worldview of the artist?”

It's pretty hard to argue with this, right? I mean, look at her hands. With one hand, she's hanging on to a half-eaten root while with the other she's doing the Pledge of Allegiance!

The only problem is that they don't do the Pledge of Allegiance in England and it's the wrong hand to pledge with anyway!

Did you notice the way that the hands are depicted in all of these examples? They look absolutely human. But we have to ask, “Is that interpretation true, or has it been impacted by the worldview of the artist?”

In order to answer that question, let's go back to the actual fossil evidence that was found for Lucy and double check.



“Lucy” - AL-288-1, Alamy Stock Photo
Image ID: DTFR2P

Did they find any hand bones for Lucy? Again, the answer is NO! Therefore, it's impossible to know what kind of hands the specimen called Lucy had.

But what about the other *Au. afarensis* fossils, what do they show? Believe it or not, we can actually answer that question ... using secular sources!

Let's first go to the Australian Museum of Natural History. Look at the image and read what they write about it:



"This cast of an *Australopithecus afarensis* hand shows the characteristic long, curved finger bones. These are more like the hands of living apes than they are modern human hands. The cross section of the finger bones is also squarish, indicating either a partly arboreal lifestyle or that this is a primitive feature retained after they moved into a more terrestrial lifestyle."¹⁷

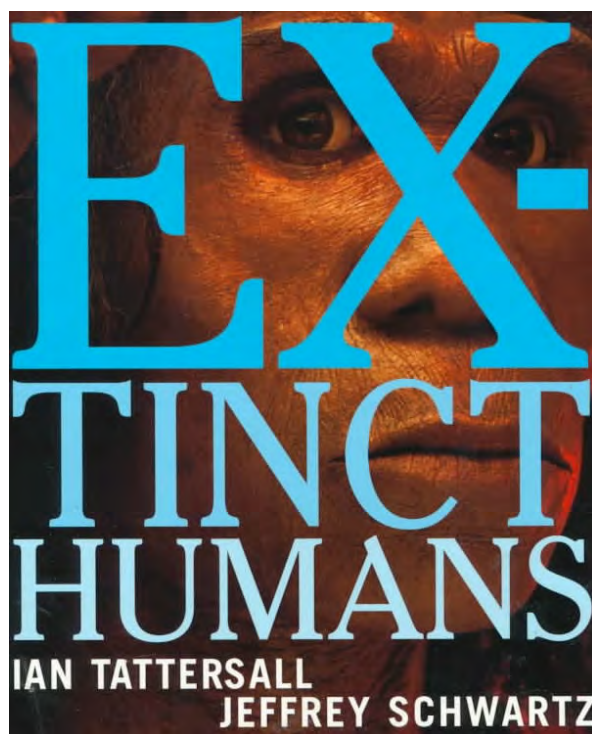
Anything jump out at you??

How about the line, "***These are more like the hands of living apes than they are modern human hands***"? Hmmm! Houston, we have a problem! The actual scientific evidence supports ape-like hands, not human.

¹⁷ <https://australian.museum/learn/science/human-evolution/australopithecus-afarensis/#gallery-204-3>

But wait, there's more! Take a look at what the Curator Emeritus with the American Museum of Natural History in New York City, Ian Tattersall, and Jeffrey Schwartz had to say in their book entitled, "Extinct Humans":

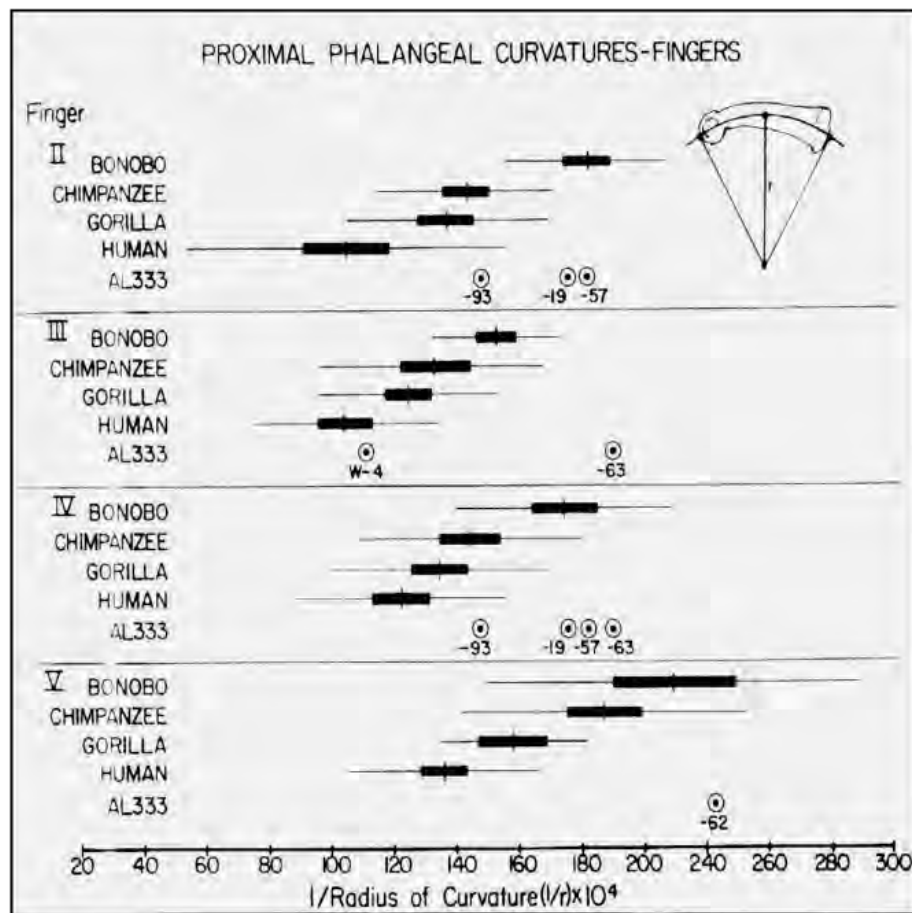
*"In keeping with Lucy having had long and strongly curved finger and toe bones, as do chimpanzees and orangutans, Schmid's reconstruction also emphasizes the long arms typical of an arboreal hominoid."*¹⁸



Extinct Humans, Ian Tattersall and Jeffrey Schwartz, ISBN 978-0-8133-3482-0

Lastly, let's go back to our American Journal of Physical Anthropology article where they also compared the curvature of the finger bones of Bonobo – Chimpanzee – Gorilla – Human – AL 333-I5G (*Au. afarensis*) and see what they have to say about this issue.

¹⁸ Ian Tattersall and Jeffrey Schwartz, Extinct Humans, January 1, 2000, p. 256



J. Stern & R. Susman, 1983, Am. J. Phys. Anthropology 60:279-212

Again, you can very clearly see that this secular source declares that the finger bones of *Au. afarensis* were just as curved, or more so, as a chimpanzee or bonobo.

Jake Stearns and Randall Sussman, who are NOT creationists, studied Australopithecine fossils and discovered that their hands were curved and designed for hanging from tree limbs. They actually stated that the *Au. afarensis* hands were surprisingly similar to chimpanzees.¹⁹

In addition, their wrists had the ability to lock in place which is required for walking on all fours.²⁰ This feature isn't found in humans.

¹⁹ J. Stern & R. Sussman, 1983 American Journal of Physical Anthropology 60:279-317 p. 284.

²⁰ Science News April 8, 2000 P 235 "Lucy on the Ground With Knuckles" Richmond and Strait, Nature March 23.

This makes it very clear that *Au. afarensis* DID NOT have human hands OR feet. Using their own evidence, we can be very sure that the specimen called Lucy would have had hands and feet that were in fact, “very ape-like.”



Australopithecus afarensis, aka “Lucy”, reconstruction at CosmoCaixa Barcelona. Photo courtesy of Antonio Cruz.

4. NOW WE’RE IN TROUBLE: LUCY’S HIPS PROVE SHE/HE WAS BIPEDAL, RIGHT?

I can clearly hear the ring announcer’s voice in my head as he says, “Let’s Get Ready to RUMBLEEEEE!” We’re getting into the area that sends people over the edge. Tempers flare, blood pressure rises and names are called when people talk about the topic of creation/ evolution, period. But, when you start talking about Lucy’s hips, it heats up even more quickly!

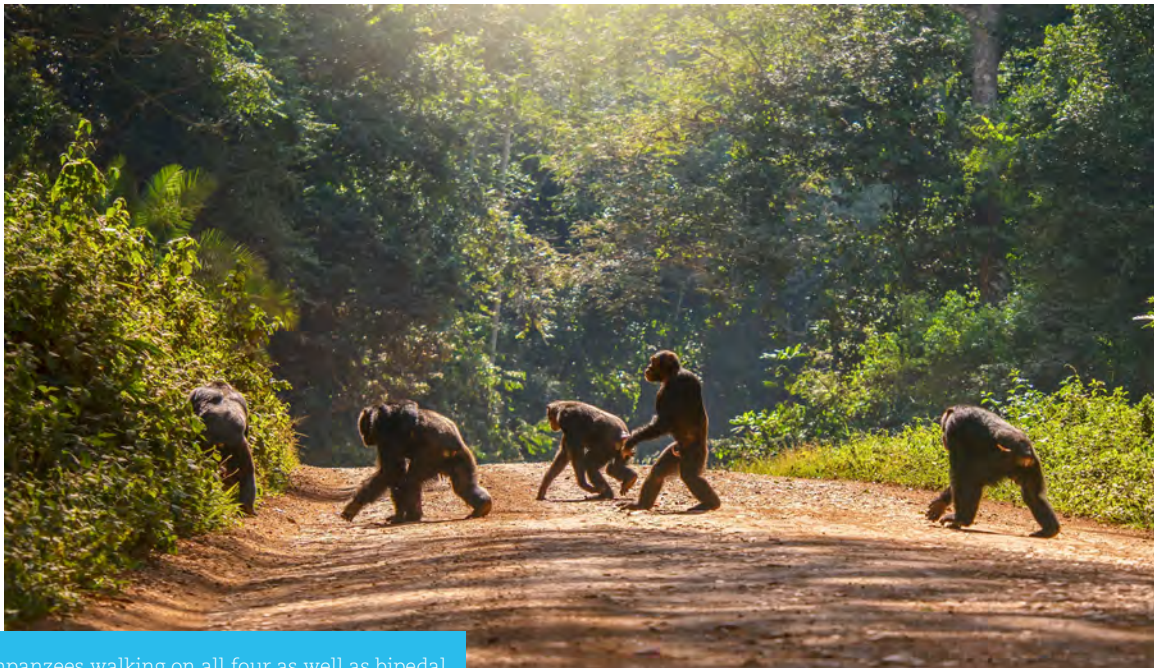
For this section we won’t just look at the fossil evidence as we did in the last three sections. This time I will give you direct quotes from the man most famous for finding Lucy, Dr. Don Johanson. In addition, we’ll use quotes from Dr. Owen Lovejoy, who did a LOT of work on Lucy’s bones.

These quotes come from the NOVA documentary “In Search of Human Origins”, referenced earlier. You can still watch this episode on YouTube if you’re interested.

Take a listen to what was said about Lucy’s hips:

DON JOHANSON: *“We needed Owen Lovejoy’s expertise again, because the evidence wasn’t quite adding up. The knee looked human, but the shape of her hip didn’t. Superficially, her hip resembled a chimpanzee’s, which meant that Lucy couldn’t possibly have walked like a modern human. But Lovejoy noticed something odd about the way the bones had been fossilized.”*

We’ve already dealt with the claim made about the knee above, but please notice that Dr. Johanson states very clearly that the hip “resembled a chimpanzee’s.”



Chimpanzees walking on all four as well as bipedal.

He also readily admits why hips angled like a chimp’s is a problem. If that were true, it “*meant that she couldn’t possibly have walked like a modern human.*” Remember, in order to walk like a human, you have to have human shaped hips. If they are angled like a chimpanzee, the animal would be forced to bend forward and walk on all fours

(quadruped). Now, chimps are able to walk upright to an extent, but they waddle when they do because their hips and knees don't allow for their legs to rotate the same as humans.

(By the way, think about this: IF Lucy had hips angled like an ape's, this would prohibit her/him from producing the Laetoli footprints. The stride length between those footprints indicate normal, bipedal locomotion, NOT waddling. Also, at 3 feet tall *Au. afarensis* was much too short to make a normal human stride length!)

Johansen's theory is that something must have happened during fossilization to change Lucy's hips from being shaped like a human to begin with to now resembling a chimp. Remember, human hips are necessary for his fossil Lucy to have been an evolutionary ancestor to humans. Let's continue:

OWEN LOVEJOY: *"When I put the two parts of the pelvis together that we had, this part of the pelvis has pressed so hard and so completely into this one, that it caused it to be broken into a series of individual pieces, which were then fused together in later fossilization."*

So, according to Dr. Lovejoy, Lucy's hip bones were broken *after* she died and then were "fused" back together, changing them from human shaped to chimpanzee shaped.

Now, I may not have a PhD, but I'm pretty sure that when you die, your fusing days are done, and the decay process sets in! How in the world did the bones fuse back together *after* she/he was dead??

That leads to another question. How were Lucy's bones broken, so that they could fuse back into a different shape? This is classic and I'll let Dr. Johanson tell you:

DON JOHANSON: *"After Lucy died, some of her bones lying in the mud must have been crushed or broken, perhaps by animals browsing at the lake shore."*

In the program they show a deer stepping on the supposed human shaped hips of Lucy, crushing them, so that they could then fuse back ... but this time they're angled like a chimp. Again, I may not have an



earned PhD, but I've got to point out that if an animal dies by the lake shore, it won't lay there for a long enough period of time for the flesh to rot off so a deer can step on its hip bones! Scavengers would have eaten the animal, which would have caused the bones to be scattered all over the place. You wouldn't find the specimen all together as Lucy was supposed to have been when discovered. That fact alone supports that Lucy was covered up quickly, by a lot of water and dirt. (By the way, the Bible gives us a clue as to how that could have happened! But that's another discussion.)

It gets even more interesting in the video as Dr. Lovejoy continues:

OWEN LOVEJOY: *"This has caused the two bones in fact to fit together so well that they're in an anatomically impossible position."*

This one always intrigues me. The bones fit together "so well" that they were in an "anatomically impossible position." What is that supposed to mean?

In a nutshell, that means that because her hips were angled like a chimp when discovered, she couldn't have walked upright (and don't forget, this characteristic is necessary to be an evolutionary ancestor to humans). And because scientists supposedly "KNOW" that this was an evolutionary ancestor to apes and humans, then they "KNOW" that it had to walk upright which means that the chimp-shaped hips just cannot be accurate. That's why they say it is "anatomically impossible."



WHAT DOES THE EVIDENCE ACTUALLY SUPPORT?

I have to ask, how do scientists “KNOW” Lucy walked upright? How do they “KNOW” that it was nothing more than another ape? What does the actual evidence support, not what do they want it to be?

I’ve got a suggestion: if *Au. afarensis* (which includes Lucy) had hips angled like a *chimp* ... and hands like a *chimp* ... and feet like a *chimp* ... and a skull like a *chimp* ... maybe it was possibly, I know it’s a long-shot, call me crazy but I’m going to go out on a limb here ... maybe it was a ... *chimp*?

Let’s continue:

DON JOHANSON: “*The perfect fit was an illusion that made Lucy’s hip bones seem to flare out like a chimp’s. But all was not lost.*”

The “perfect fit” showed that Lucy’s hips flared “out like a *chimp*.” So much for her being an evolutionary ancestor then. But wait, there’s hope. Dr. Johanson tells us, “All was not lost.”

“But, Carl,” you might say, “We see human hips on the reconstructions and drawings, including the bones that are in the Smithsonian Museum of Natural History in the Hall of Human Origins. She had to have hips that were similar to a human!!”

PLEASE go watch “In Search of Human Origins” for yourself. When you see and hear what was done to solve the problem of Lucy’s hips, I think you’ll be shocked. I wish in an article I could play just the audio portion for you, but I can’t.

So, I’m going to have to ask you to please use your imagination. Stick with me here. Pretend you can hear a Dremel tool grinding away at plaster. Got it? Now, keep hearing that sound as you read this next quote:

DON JOHANSON: *Lovejoy decided he could restore the pelvis to its natural shape. He didn't want to tamper with the original, so he made a copy in plaster. He cut the damaged pieces out and put them back together the way they were before Lucy died. It was a tricky job, but after taking the kink out of the pelvis, it all fit together perfectly, like a three-dimensional jigsaw puzzle. As a result, the angle of the hip looks nothing like a chimp's, but a lot like ours.*

Okay, okay ... with that kind of evidence, I concede to those that have been name calling, you win! It’s obvious that Lucy had hips like a human, right? NOT! That only happened *after* they used a grinder to take out the parts that didn’t fit with their godless worldview.

**When the evidence
doesn't fit your ideas**



You can make it fit!

My good friend Dr. David DeWitt, who has studied casts of Lucy's bones extensively, says that the pelvis isn't really chimp like or human like. In fact, even though it's very unique and in most cases the bones are closer to a chimp's than human's, he believes, and I agree with him, that Lucy may be an extinct ape that is like a chimp but not a chimp. That's because some of the characteristics of Lucy align more with a tree dwelling lifestyle while chimps live on the ground.

People are free to believe that this was an apelike ancestor. That's the great thing about America: no one should be forced to believe anything.

That's the great thing about our God as well. He doesn't force anyone to believe in Him or to receive His free gift of eternal life. He gives us the freedom to decide what we'll do with what He's shown us and what He's done for us. But, please remember, there are consequences to the decisions we make. If you don't want to spend eternity with God, so be it. Just know that you will spend eternity somewhere, and if it's not with God, the alternative is hell!

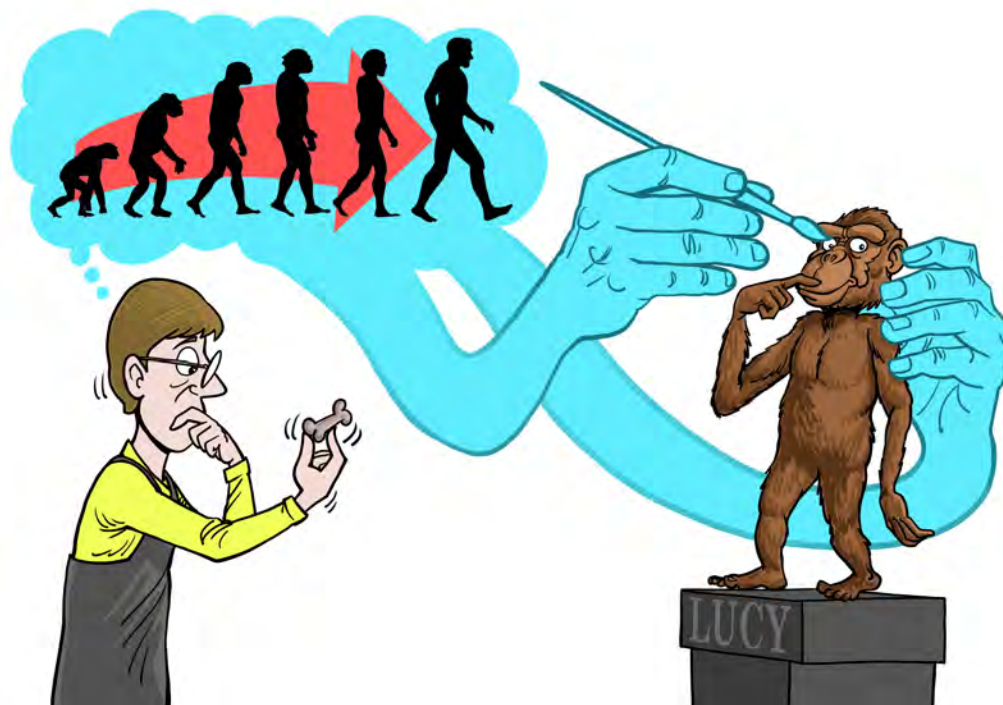
I'm reminded of a chorus I heard a long time ago from a Bob Dylan song. It went:

*You may be an ambassador to England or France
You may like to gamble, you might like to dance
You may be the heavyweight champion of the world
You may be a socialite with a long string of pearls*

*But you're gonna' have to serve somebody, yes
Indeed you're gonna' have to serve somebody
Well, it may be the devil or it may be the Lord
But you're gonna' have to serve somebody* ²¹

And we all do serve somebody! Please make sure you're serving the one true God!

All I know is that if a Christian or Creationist showed this type of a video and used it to justify their faith, we'd be openly mocked and ridiculed. When I use this video in my presentations, I don't do it to mock or ridicule. I use it to challenge folks and help them to make an informed decision as to whom they will follow: God's Word vs. Man's opinion.



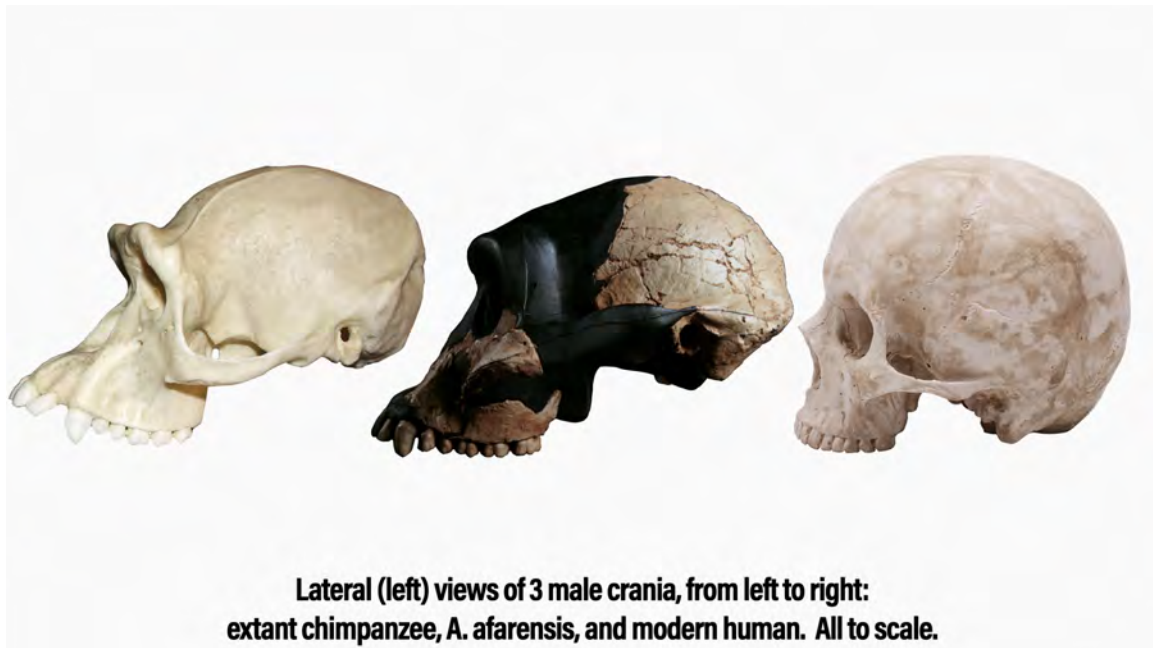
²¹ <https://www.bobdylan.com/songs/gotta-serve-somebody/>

5. BUT WASN'T LUCY'S SKULL INTERMEDIATE BETWEEN APES AND HUMANS?

Let's tackle this issue in two ways.

1. What does the actual evidence support?
2. Are there any implications to Lucy's skull shape?

It's pretty easy to address the first question, so let's go after it. Let me show you an image that I made based on one that I found at [eFossils](#)²².



**Lateral (left) views of 3 male crania, from left to right:
extant chimpanzee, *A. afarensis*, and modern human. All to scale.**

Image by Carl Kerby based on illustration found at eFossils.
Human Skull Dreamstime.com | Photo 32205268 ©Mikphotographer

At first you can clearly see that the *Au. afarensis* skull, which is in between a chimpanzee and human above, has at least one similarity to humans: the brow ridges.

²² <http://efossils.org/book/activity-brain-size-vs-bipedalism-part-b>

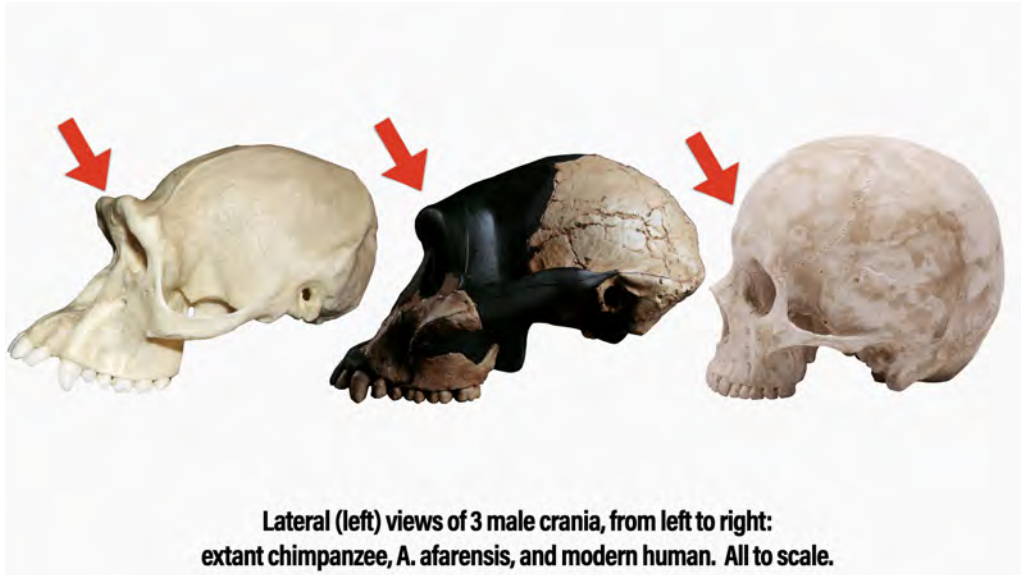


Image by Carl Kerby based on illustration found at eFossils.
Human Skull Dreamstime.com | Photo 32205268 ©Mikphotographer

They're not nearly as big as a chimpanzee's. We'll deal with that issue in "The Eyes Have It!" section below, so please just hold on to that thought. First, let's address the deception that's taking place in this photo. Notice the dark area on the *Au. afarensis* fossil in the center.

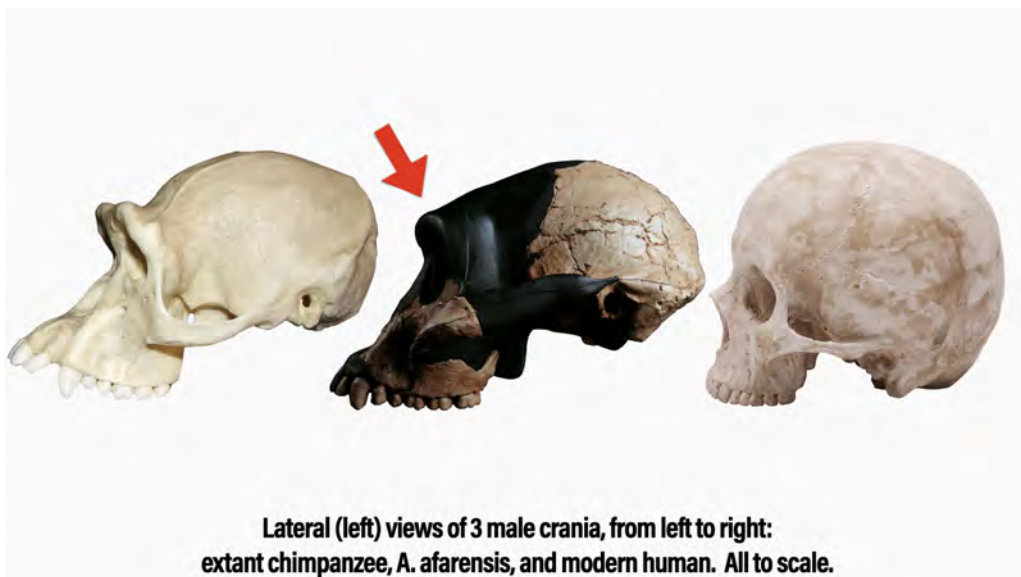


Image by Carl Kerby based on illustration found at eFossils.
Human Skull Dreamstime.com | Photo 32205268 ©Mikphotographer

The reason that area is dark is because that part of the skull wasn't found. So, let's get rid of it for illustration purposes.



Image by Carl Kerby based on illustration found at eFossils.
Human Skull Dreamstime.com | Photo 32205268 ©Mikphotographer

Now, let's take the pieces that were found and overlap the chimpanzee skull to see if they're similar or not.

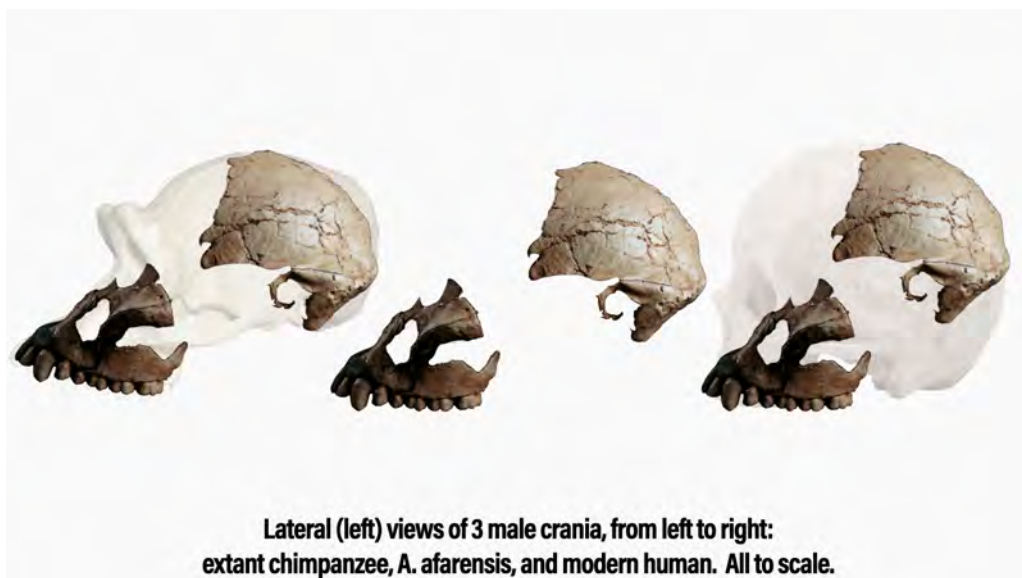
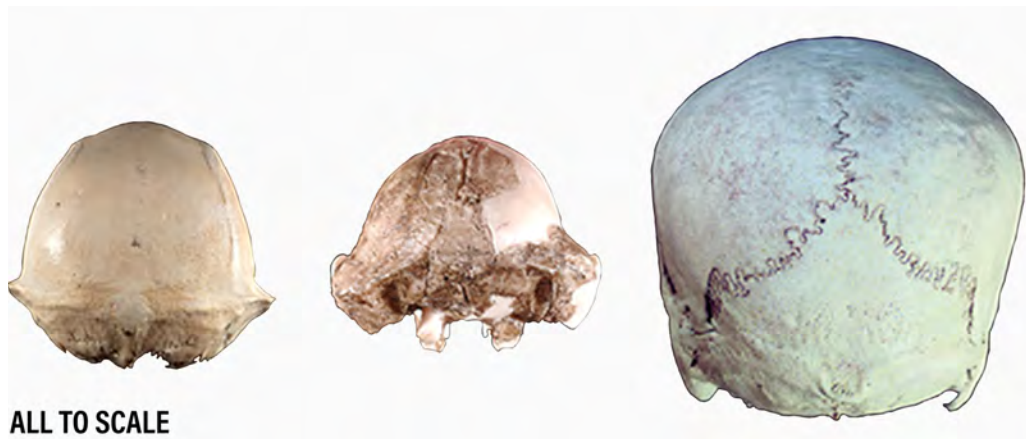


Image by Carl Kerby based on illustration found at eFossils.
Human Skull Dreamstime.com | Photo 32205268 ©Mikphotographer

What does the actual evidence fit better with? That Lucy had an apelike skull or humanlike skull? You can make that decision for yourself. As for me and my house, we're going with the ape skull similarity.

Please allow me to point out deception from the images that you just saw comparing Lucy's skull with a chimpanzee and humans. It is very subtle and one that the vast majority of people who see the image would never notice.

When looking at the skulls from the side, they appear to all be approximately the same size. But, what's the truth? Take a look at the same skulls from behind.



ALL TO SCALE

Image by Carl Kerby based on illustration found at eFossils.
Human Skull Dreamstime.com | Photo 32205268 ©Mikphotographer

Can you see the difference now? Yes, from the side, an ape skull may look similar in size to a human skull. But from behind, you can tell difference very easily. Lucy's skull was completely and totally apelike. This is nothing more than deception at its finest. We must critically evaluate evidence or we will be duped.

The next question was, "Are there any implications to Lucy's skull shape?"

Quite frankly, yes, there are. If Lucy did in fact have features that later led to humans it would/could support the evolutionary perspective. It wouldn't prove it of course. There are many things that look alike that don't necessarily have the same ancestry.

So, did Lucy look human-like? Let's look at some of the external characteristics that artists have depicted in their reproductions of Lucy:



"Lucy" reconstruction with human eyes.
Shutterstock, Image ID: 1660181173

and then compare them to a living chimpanzee.



Chimpanzee. Envato Elements, Photo by Edwin Butler

Observe those pictures critically and remember, in order to be considered an evolutionary ancestor to humans and apes, the evidence must show features consistent with both species.



Did you notice any differences? Did you notice any similarities?

It's clear that Lucy has human features, right? Take a look at another reconstruction of Lucy.



Au. Afarensis with human eyes. Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History

Just look at that face! How can you argue that it wasn't related to humans?

The most humanlike feature (without a doubt!) would have to be her eyes. The iris and the sclera (the white of the eye) look completely human! Just this feature alone would lead you to believe that this creature was an apelike, human ancestor.

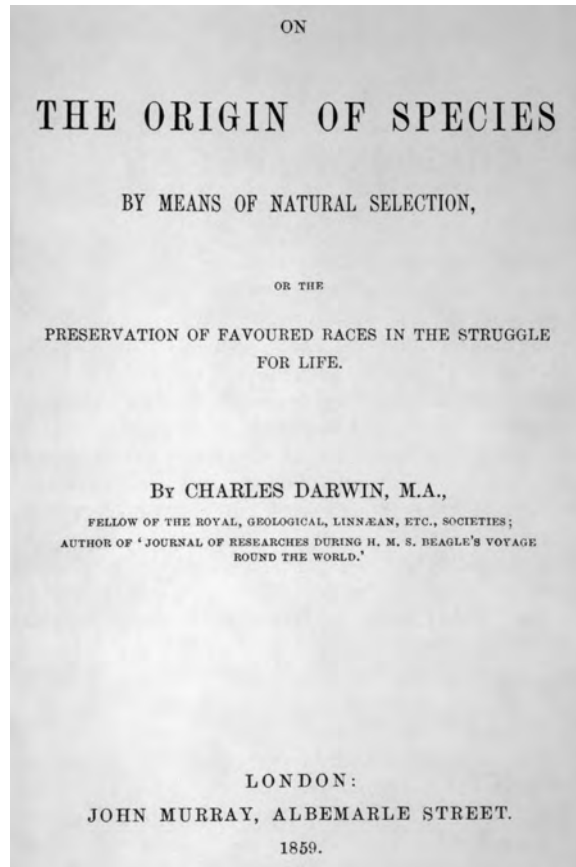
And notice the ears. They're not nearly as large as a normal chimpanzee's, again reinforcing the belief that Lucy was supposedly an apelike ancestor to humans.

In addition, notice the coloring of Lucy's face— it's much darker than a chimpanzee's face. Put all of this together and you have a perfect "ape-like" ancestor. Now, you may be wondering why the coloring is important – and that's a very good question.

I'll preface this next section by admitting the following statement is very controversial, but it is absolutely true!

EVOLUTION IS A RACIST PHILOSOPHY!

Just look at the original title for Charles Darwin's book (now synonymous with evolution):



On the Origin Of Species by Charles Darwin, 1859, Title Page, AdobeStock File #: 162253005

“On The Origin Of Species By Means Of Natural Selection, Or The Preservation Of Favoured Races In The Struggle For Life.”

Charles Darwin clearly taught that some “races” were better than others. The following is just one quote of many that can be used to prove that point:

“Lastly, I could show fight [i.e., “vigorously advocate”] on natural selection having done and doing more for the progress of civilisation {sic} than you seem inclined to admit. Remember what risk the nations of Europe ran, not so many centuries ago, of being overwhelmed by the

Turks, and how ridiculous such an idea now is! The more civilised {sic} so-called Caucasian races have beaten the Turkish hollow in the struggle for existence. Looking to the world at no very distant date, what an endless number of the lower races will have been eliminated by the higher civilized races throughout the world.”²³

Please hear this clearly, I’m NOT saying that all evolutionists are racists! And that’s because it’s simply not true. Some evolutionists are racists and some are not. But the implications of evolution are racist.

Now, I have to be honest and admit that there are many so-called “Christians” who are also racist!



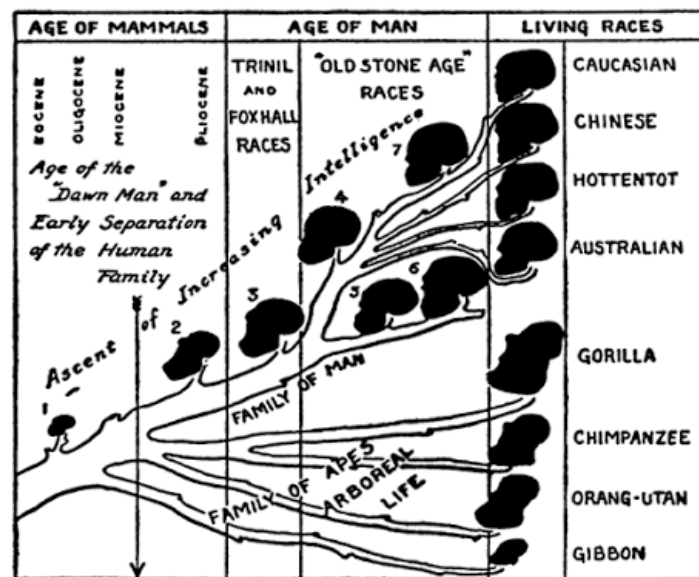
Trust me, I’ve seen a lot of craziness among Christians when it comes to this topic. I’ve had deacons explain to me why they tell visitors to their church who have a different skin tone where they should attend the next week. That IS NOT biblical.

I’ve had people walk out of meetings telling me, “*God separated the ‘races’ and now you’re trying to put them back together!*” so therefore I was a heretic. I’ve even had a church cancel my speaking engagement because they found out that my wife was Japanese. They said I was in an “interracial marriage” and their church by-laws stated that if they let someone in such a marriage speak in their pulpit the pastor would be removed from ministry.

²³ Letter from Charles Darwin to W. Graham, 3 July 1881 - <https://charles-darwin.classic-literature.co.uk/the-life-and-letters-of-charles-darwin-volume-i/ebook-page-136.asp>

Trust me when I say I know there's a lot of wrong thinking within the Body of Christ on this topic. But when Christians believe this, it's *in spite of* what the Scripture teaches on the topic, not *because of* what it teaches. The Bible clearly teaches that every human on the planet goes back to one man (1 Corinthians 15:45) and one woman (Genesis 3:20), therefore there's only one "race", the human "race" (Acts 17:26). Since the Bible is true, then hatred of someone based simply on their skin tone is sin and should be dealt with accordingly! There's no biblical justification for the hatred we see because of biological differences.

But, on the other hand, IF the evolutionary process is accurate, it teaches that apelike creatures ancestral to both apes and humans evolved in Africa. Over time, they evolved into "black" hominids. Some of those first hominids ate fish, which spurred brain development, making them smarter. Eventually, some of those smart "black" hominids moved north to the colder regions and given enough time, as they adapted to the colder climate, they evolved into the "white" people.



EXISTING FACTS OF HUMAN ASCENT

1, 2. Dawn stage of human prehistory. 3. First known walking stage, the erect Trinil race of Java. 4. Piltdown race of Sussex. 5, 6. The low-browed Heidelberg-Neanderthal race. 7. Crô-Magnon and related races of high intelligence. The races 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 are scattered throughout the entire period of the Age of Man, conservatively estimated at 500,000 years. Altogether, upward of 136 skulls and skeletons of the fossil men of this period are known.

Reprinted from Henry Fairfield Osborn, *Evolution and Religion in Education: Polemics of the Fundamental Controversy of 1922 to 1926* (1926, New York).

http://archive.oah.org/special-issues/teaching/2001_03/sources/image_branches.html

Henry Fairfield Osborn, who was known for “discovering” the famous fake human ancestor “Piltdown man”, also clearly taught that “races” evolved. Read from left to right and you’ll see that his evolutionary tree diagram leads to “Caucasians” being at the top of the “Living Races”.

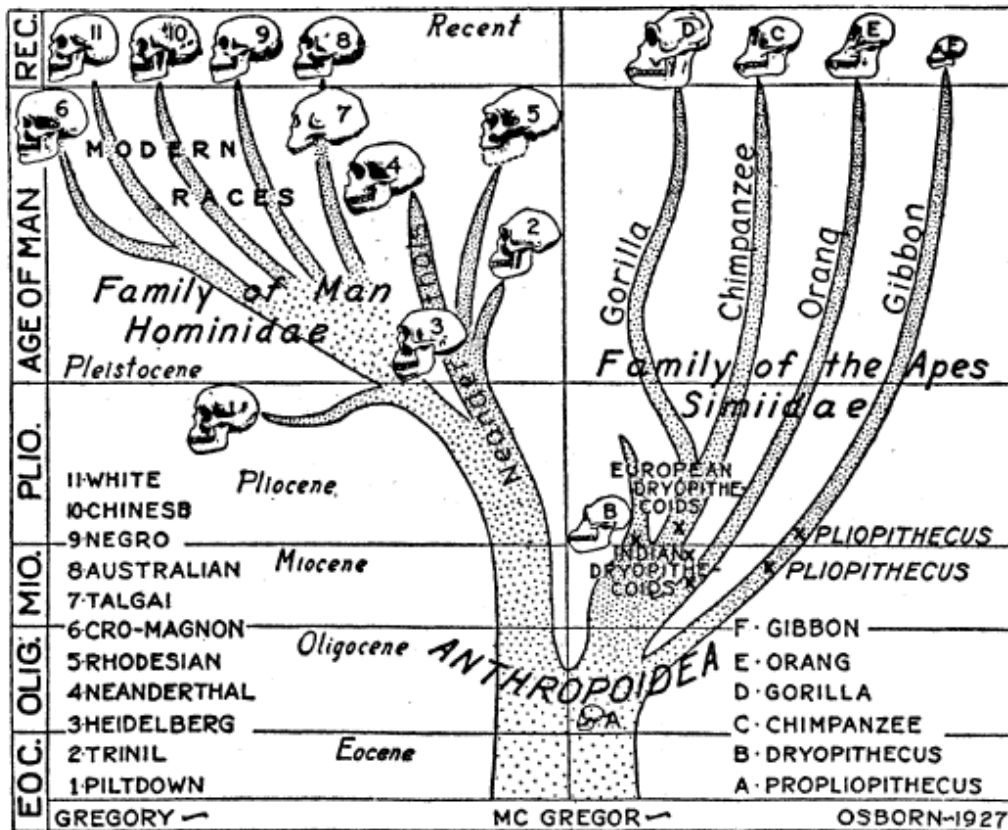


FIG. 2.—Recent evidence as to the ascent or phylogeny of man. (Left) Family of man, *Hominidae*, dividing into the Neanderthaloid (right) and modern racial (left) stocks. Present geologic location of the Piltdown, Heidelberg, Trinil, Neanderthal and Rhodesian fossil races (left). (Right) Family of the apes, *Simiidae*, including the Pliocene and Miocene Dryopithecoids nearest the ancestral stock of the *Anthropoidea*; also the lines leading to the gorilla, orang, chimpanzee and gibbon. *Anthropoidea*—the common Oligocene ancestors of the *Hominidae* (left) and of the *Simiidae* (right).

Henry Fairfield Osborn, “The Discovery of Tertiary Man”, *Science*, New Series, Vol. 71, No. 1827 (Jan. 3, 1930)

Read the chart from from left to right. Notice again that he depicts “Whites” as the highest evolved.

<https://textbookhistory.com/henry-fairfield-osborn-and-piltdown-man/>

If this were the case, the closer you get to the “missing link”, the hominids should be darker and only later become lighter ... and that’s exactly what you see being depicted in the evolutionary ancestors. Take a look at the picture from the Smithsonian Museum of Natural History showing our supposed ancestors and you will see this progression very clearly depicted.



Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History

By the way, if the evolutionary process is correct and we’ve all just evolved over time as a product of random chemical processes, I’ll ask a question. WHY is it wrong to hate someone that looks different from us? If we evolved to hate those with a different skin tone, eye shape, or any other reason for that matter, why is it wrong?

So, according to evolution, racism is just a holdover from when we were hominids living in areas where there weren't enough resources for large groups.

When you study the topic of xenophobia (fear of foreigners), it's taught that prejudice is a result of evolution. Here's what ASU Professor on social psychology Steven Neuberg wrote on the topic:

*"Contrary to what most people believe, the tendency to be prejudiced is a form of common sense, hard-wired into the human brain through evolution as an adaptive response to protect our prehistoric ancestors from danger."*²⁴

And he's not alone in this belief. Stephen K. Sanderson in "The Evolution of Human Sociality" wrote:

*"Darwin himself saw ethnicity and ethnocentrism as evolutionary adaptations. He said that a 'tribe including many members who, from possessing in a high degree the spirit of patriotism, fidelity, obedience, courage, and sympathy, were always ready to aid each other and to sacrifice themselves for the common good would be victorious over other tribes.'"*²⁵

Johan van der Dennen wrote:

*"Xenophobia has apparently arisen in the course of natural selection and social evolution".*²⁶

²⁴ Journal of Personality and Social Psychology, May 2005 - <https://www.news-medical.net/news/2005/05/26/10415.aspx>

²⁵ Stephen K. Sanderson, The Evolution of Human Sociality: A Darwinian Conflict Perspective, p. 324

²⁶ Johan van der Dennen, Ethnocentrism and in-group/out-group differentiation, p. 22

And lastly, Raisa A. Rahim wrote:

*“Xenophobic tendencies can be observed throughout the animal kingdom, making it likely that this anti-social bias has been evolutionarily inherited.”*²⁷

So, according to evolution, racism is just a holdover from when we were hominids living in areas where there weren't enough resources for large groups. If another group of hominids moved into our area, those with the “aggressive” gene would kill off or drive away the other group. Eventually, that aggressive gene was passed on to the next generation and those with the “passive” gene would be killed off. The evolutionary conclusion as to why we see such hatred among the “races” today is that it's genetic, which ultimately means that we can't do anything about it.



This is WRONG! Racism and prejudice are sin, and something can be done about it. It's called, REPENT! Jesus died for every person on this planet and it doesn't matter what they look like on the outside. On the inside, we're all sinners and need a Savior – and His name is Jesus Christ!

²⁷ The Neuroevolutionary Roots of Xenophobia, Raisa Rahim - https://explorations.ucdavis.edu/2017/Raisa_Rahim.html



"Lucy" reconstruction with human eyes.
Shutterstock, Image ID: 1331481890

THE EYES HAVE IT!

Setting aside the issue of racism, what does the observational, scientific evidence reveal about the eyes, ears, skin color and brow ridge of Lucy?

For the first three, it's very easy . . . NOTHING! And that's because NO FOSSIL evidence was found depicting the eye, ear or skin of any of our supposed evolutionary ancestors, including Lucy. Whenever you see those depictions, recognize that you're NOT looking at scientific evidence. You're looking at someone's interpretation of the evidence and their interpretation is being impacted by their worldview! If you don't believe me, let's take a look at the actual evidence that was found for Lucy's skull. ▼

The human-like reconstruction of Lucy's eye is pure speculation.

You can see very clearly that a fossilized eyeball was not found. So how would anyone know that the sclera was white (which would make it look more human)? The human-like reconstruction of Lucy's eye is pure speculation.



Lucy's skull fragments! Alamy Stock Photo
Image ID: DTE145



Chimpanzee brow ridges.

*You're looking
at someone's
interpretation of the
evidence and their
interpretation is
being impacted by
their worldview!*

OH MY, WHAT BIG EYE BROW RIDGES YOU HAVE!

As for the eyebrow ridges, I told you we'd address this, so here goes. Does the observational evidence show that they were more human-like? Not at all. Remember, for the specimen called Lucy, all they have are 5-8 skull fragments.

What I find interesting is what they've done with those bone fragments! Search the internet for "Australopithecus afarensis" & "skull" & "reconstruction". Classify the search for "images" and see what comes up. Below are just a few of the reconstructions you'll find:



Au. afarensis Front and Side Comparison.
Photo taken from Flickr.

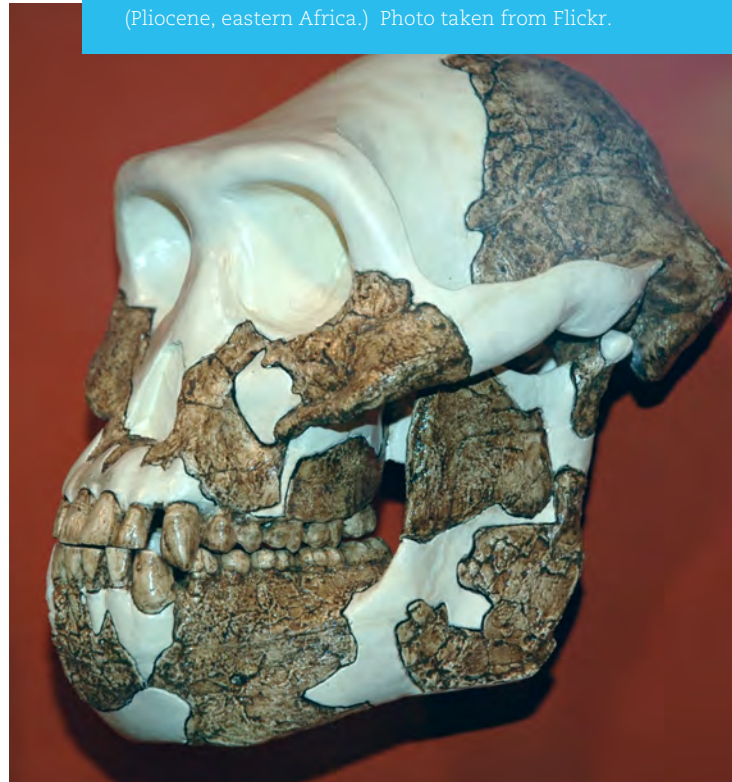
Au. afarensis side view.
Photo taken from Flickr.



- ◀ Notice the difference in the teeth and how far the skull extends back.

Notice the much more prominent eye brow ridges. ▼

Australopithecus afarensis fossil hominid.
(Pliocene, eastern Africa.) Photo taken from Flickr.



- ▲ Notice how much larger the eye brow ridges are and how flat the face is.



Au. afarensis side view.
Photo taken from Flickr.

Even if you don't have a PhD you can see the differences. Some are much more apelike than others.

How can you get such a huge difference in the same creature? Easy! It's because all they have are seven skull FRAGMENTS. These are then reconstructed with a lot of imagination used to fill in what was missing. **This means that the reconstruction is influenced by the individual's beliefs and worldview.** If you believe man evolved from ape-like creatures, you'll fill in the missing information to support that view.

Look again at the actual evidence one more time and then ask yourself, which reconstruction is closer to the actual evidence that was discovered?



Lucy's skull fragments! Alamy Stock Photo
Image ID: DTE145

Does the evidence support a human like skull? Absolutely not.

As a matter of fact, if you really want to know the truth about *Au. afarensis* skulls watch NOVA's "*In Search of Human Origins*" with a critical

eye and listen with critical ears. When you do, you'll hear Bill Kimbell, who worked on *Au. afarensis* bones, say:

*"we can see that as we assemble larger pieces from smaller pieces, joining them together, we're beginning to get a fairly impressive picture of a species that has a very ape-like face with big protruding brow ridges, very ape-like."*²⁸

You'll also hear Don Johanson say:

DON JOHANSON: *"We think Lucy's skull might have looked something like this, with a receding forehead and a prominent face. And with a brain case no larger than a chimp's, this was no smart ape."*

And:

DON JOHANSON: *"And what about Lucy, herself. What did she look like? We know from the teeth, the jaw and now the skull fragments we found, that Lucy had an ape-like face with a brain just a little larger than a chimp's. She may have had dark skin and patchy hair to protect her from the sun."* (Emphasis mine)

So, according to the man who discovered the bones and reconstructed them, "she" *"had an ape-like face"* and one of the men that worked on reconstructing *Au. afarensis* skulls said that this species had *"a very ape-like face with big protruding brow ridges, very ape-like."*

If that's the case then why does the reconstruction look so human? Where did all of those human-like features come from if not from the evidence? Take a look at this reconstruction that you'll find in the Smithsonian Museum of Natural History:

²⁸ Bill Kimbell, *In Search of Human Origins*, PBS Nova TV Show



Australopithecus afarensis with human eyes. Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History
Dreamstime.com | ID 77557316 © Marcos Souza

Where did the human-like eyes, darker skin, smaller ears and smaller brow ridges come from? I'll let the sculptor who created this reconstruction answer that:

*“I wanted to get a human soul into this ape-like face, to indicate something about where he was headed.”*²⁹

Well, I beg to differ. The observational evidence shows an “ape-like face” (Don Johanson’s very words), so the depiction should be ape-like, not human-like!

²⁹ John Gurche, sculptor, National Geographic 189(3): 96-117, March, 1996

What about the getting “*a human soul into this ape-like face*”?

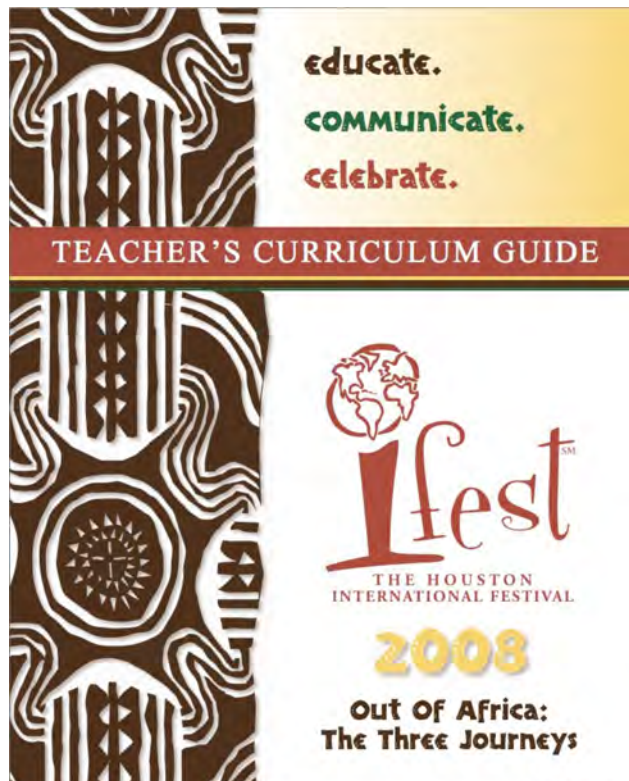
All the sculpting in the world can't create a human soul. Only God can do that!



Remember... “In the beginning, God created...” (Genesis 1:1) and then He breathed into **man** the “breath of life” (Genesis 2:7). We are not animals, we are “fearfully and wonderfully made” in the image of the Creator God, who revealed Himself as a man named Jesus. This God-man came to earth and lived a perfect life. In spite of being persecuted, hated, spit on and eventually hung from a cross, He endured it for one reason and one reason only: so that we as fallen, fallible men and women could be forgiven and spend eternity with this God who loved us so much that He took our punishment upon Himself. And that's because we could never pay the cost that the forgiveness of our sin requires.

SO, WHAT'S THE BOTTOM LINE WHEN IT COMES TO LUCY?

Simply put, it's NOT an evolutionary ancestor to humans. The evidence shared above shows very clearly that there is manipulation and deceit taking place.



Out of Africa: The Three Journeys, ifest, The Houston International Festival, 2008

If the above information hasn't already convinced you that Lucy isn't an ancestor to humans, please let me take you to one final source. Again, it's NOT a Christian source at all. As a matter of fact, it's from a booklet that was published when Lucy's actual fossil was brought over from Africa and displayed in museums across the United States. One such museum was the Houston Museum of Natural Science, and this booklet was made to assist teachers who were bringing their students to the museum to see the exhibit.

Take a look at what it says:

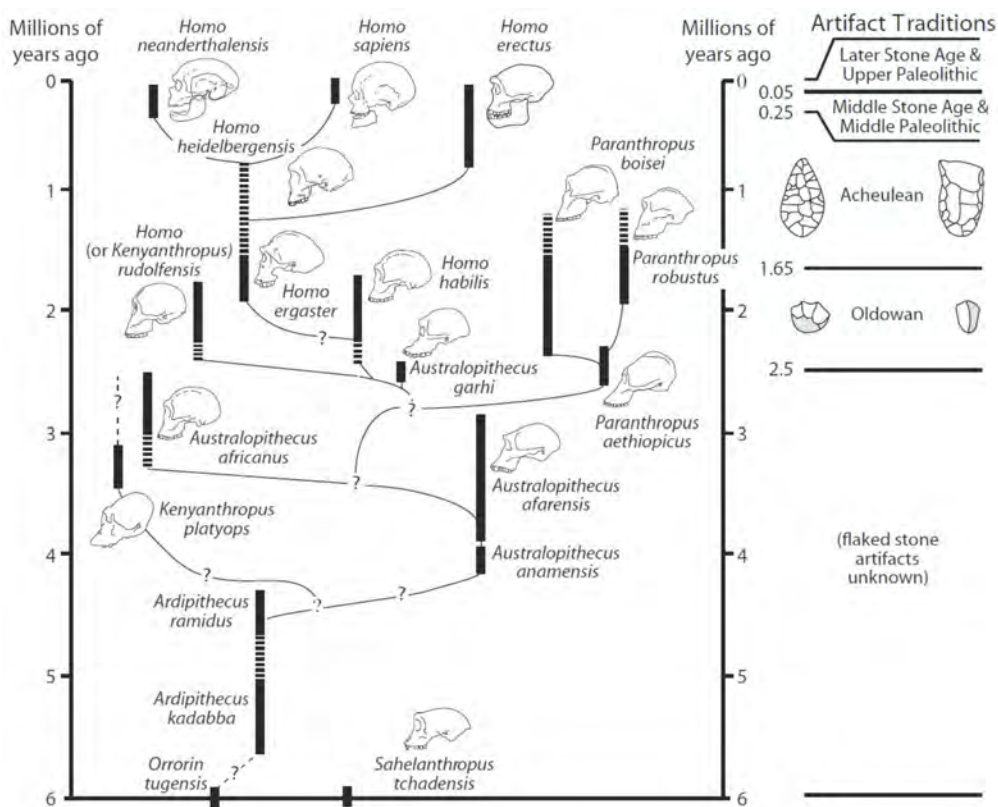
*"For many years, Lucy was thought to be a direct human ancestor, but we now see her as belonging to a separate group of hominids from those which became our species, Homo sapiens."*³⁰

³⁰ The Houston International Festival, Out of Africa: The Three Journeys, p. 20

If that doesn't convince you, look at this headline from the Jerusalem Post newspaper:

*“Israeli researchers: ‘Lucy’ is not direct ancestor of humans”*³¹

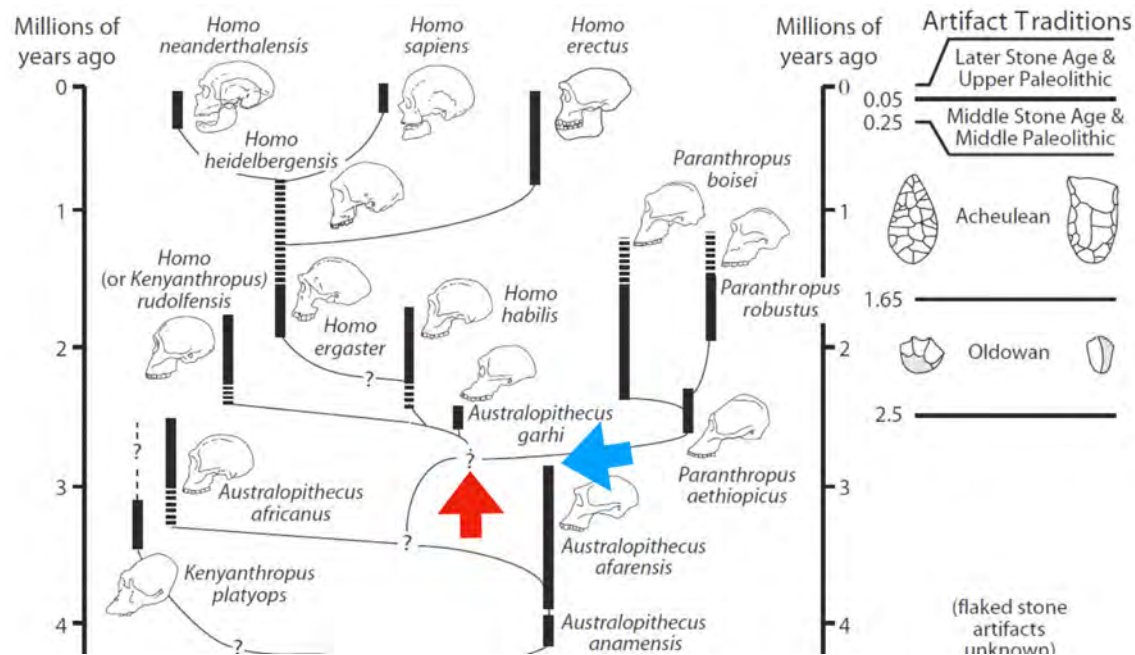
And if that's not enough, look closely at this image that was created to celebrate the 200th anniversary of the birth of Charles Darwin and the 150th anniversary of the publication of “*On the Origin of Species*”:



Darwin and the recent African origin of modern humans, Richard G. Klein,
PNAS September 22, 2009 106 (38) 16007-16009; <https://doi.org/10.1073/pnas.0908719106>

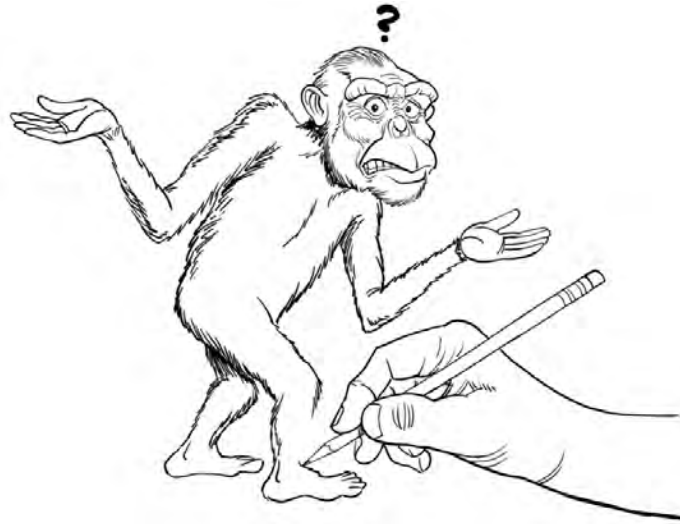
Remember, *Australopithecus afarensis* is “Lucy’s” family. The solid lines on this chart depict **actual fossil evidence**. The skinny lines on the chart depict what is **believed** to have happened according to the evolutionary perspective. The common link between humans (*Homo sapiens*) and apes is what? Take a closer look. The red arrow is pointing to the supposed evolutionary ancestor.

³¹ Jerusalem Post Online Edition, Israeli researchers: ‘Lucy’ is not direct ancestor of humans, Apr. 16, 2007



It's NOT *Au. afarensis*! In fact, look at the blue arrow: it's pointing to where *Au. afarensis* ends. Notice that it shows very clearly that *Au. afarensis* is NOT connected with either humans or apes! It's actually what's called an evolutionary dead end. It leads to nowhere!

Also notice one more thing. The new supposed "Missing Link" between apes and humans is something very profound. See for yourself. Look again at the red arrow that is pointing to the new missing link. Do you see that it's nothing more than a question mark on either side of a skinny line that's now leading to apes and humans? THAT's the new missing link, NOTHING! Yes, it's the same missing link as it's always been. Nothing! I guess we could give it a new name to make it sound a lot more impressive, how about:

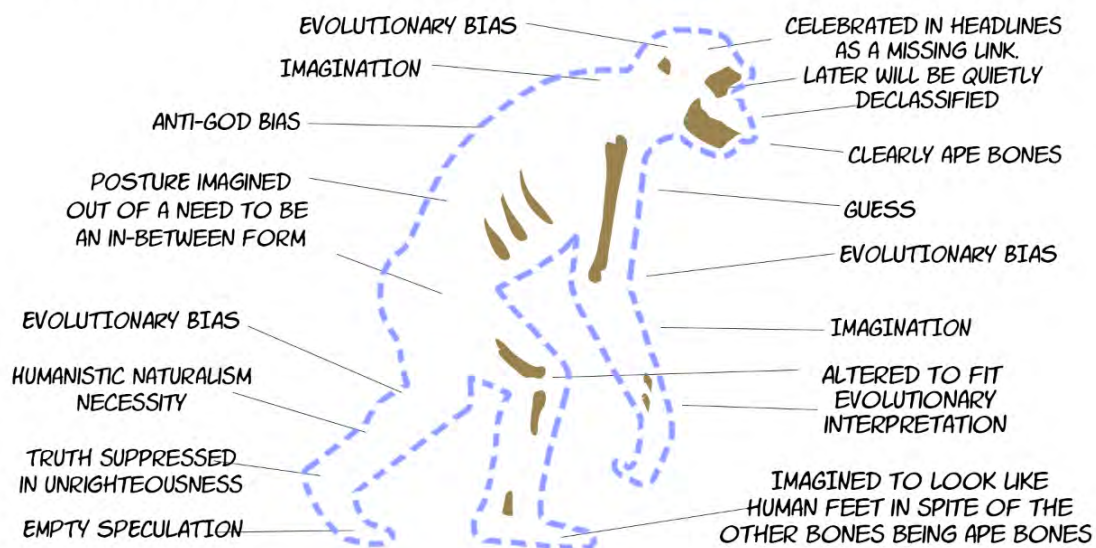


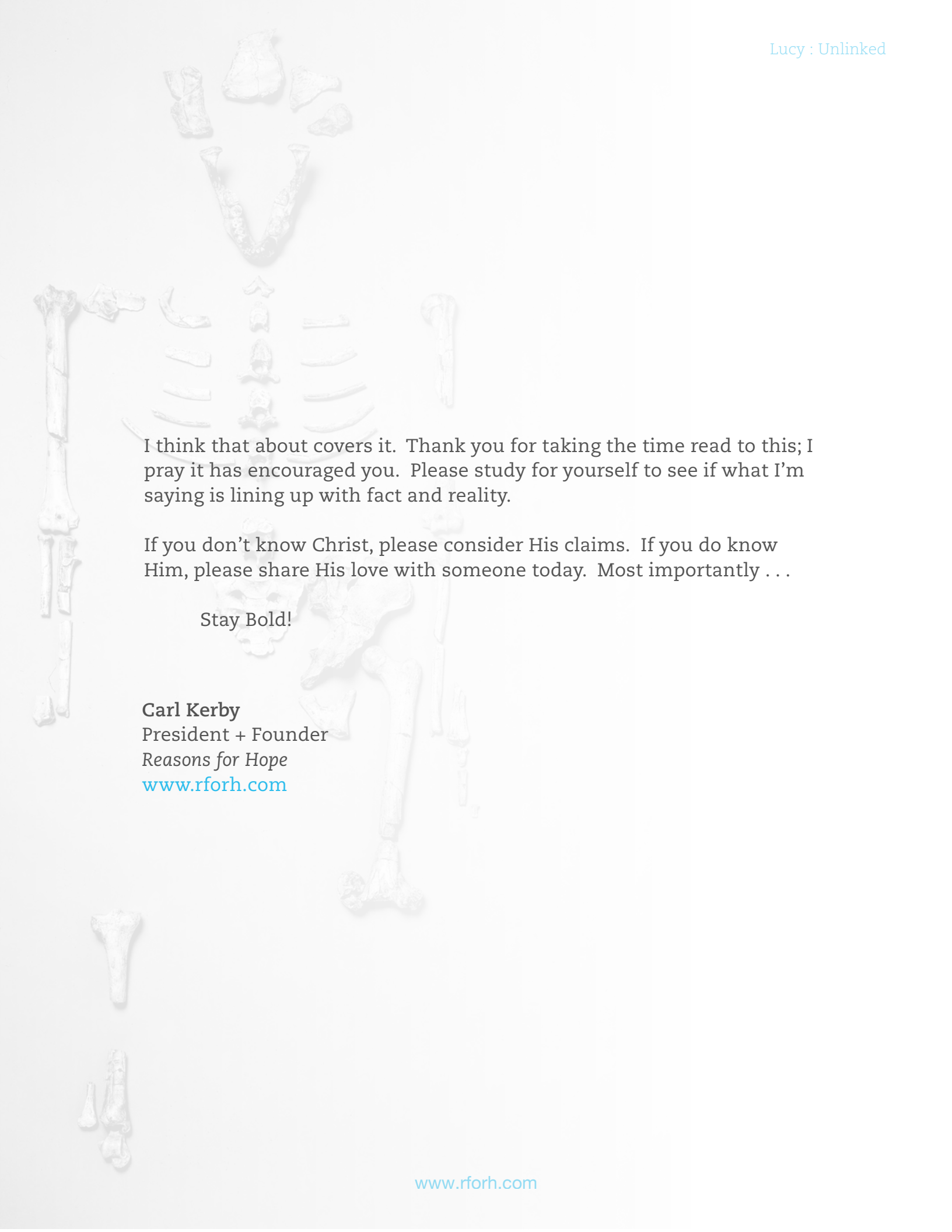
“Nothingopithecus nowherensis” ?

May I suggest that the reason there is *nothing* there is because humans DID NOT evolve! We were specially created by God, just the way that He records it for us in His Word.

To summarize please allow me to give you the true Anatomy Of A Missing Link:

ANATOMY OF A MISSING LINK





I think that about covers it. Thank you for taking the time read to this; I pray it has encouraged you. Please study for yourself to see if what I'm saying is lining up with fact and reality.

If you don't know Christ, please consider His claims. If you do know Him, please share His love with someone today. Most importantly . . .

Stay Bold!

Carl Kerby
President + Founder
Reasons for Hope
www.rforh.com

P.S. – If this content has helped you and you believe we should make more tools like this, may I ask you to please support the ministry of Reasons for Hope? We give away our content for FREE, but it still costs us to produce it. We would ask you to consider a tax-free donation to our ministry, which will allow us to continue producing DeBunked videos, DeBunkedTV, Short Cuts!, Mic'd Up! as well as our DeTour road trips, where we train people to share their faith and then take them on the street with us to evangelize. [To get all of our videos for free via a text message please go to your messaging software and send the message, "adios lucy" to the recipient "51555". You will receive an immediate response back. Just fill that form out and you will receive a link to the above mentioned videos and booklets as well as advance previews of the videos before we release them to the general public. Blessings!](#)

