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CHAPTER 1



“SHOW ME YOUR FOSSILS; I’LL SHOW YOU MINE”

PEOPLE STARE. As they approach the table lined with human skulls, the mood is one of silence and incredible wonder. When someone finally dares to break the silence, I know instinctively what the question will be. I have heard it hundreds of times. “Are they real?”

When I inform the questioners that the skulls are plaster casts of original fossils, the mood changes to relief that they are not in the presence of death. However, even my assurance that the skulls are accurate and expensive casts of the original fossil material doesn’t restore the mystique that was obvious before the question was asked.

The very thought that a professor at a Christian college would possess thirty *original* human fossils reveals the magnitude of the misconception that exists in the mind of the public regarding these fossils. It represents the first myth about human evolution that I want to discuss.

Although I have visited most of the major natural history museums in the United States and some overseas, I have never seen an original human fossil. Neither have most of the anthropologists who teach human evolution in our

universities. Neither have you. In fact, you may not have even seen a picture of an original fossil. What you thought were pictures of original fossils may have been pictures of reproductions.

No prisoner on death row is under greater security than those ancient relics called human fossils. Most of the original fossils are sequestered inside vaults of concrete or stone and accessible only through massive steel doors, the type you would expect to see at the First National Bank. Few can even see them—let alone study them.

This process of seclusion was true with the original 1856 Feldhofer Cave Neandertal. “The skull and the bones were Fuhlrott’s private property, and he did not show them to many. Only very few scholars in Britain and on the Continent had seen the skull or obtained a cast.” Even Rudolf Virchow, the greatest medical man of his time, “could only study the remains in Fuhlrott’s house after gaining access from his wife when Fuhlrott was away.”¹ William King never saw the original fossils, although he is the one who, in naming them *Homo neanderthalensis* in 1864, declared them to represent a different species from modern humans. Darwin never saw these or any other fossil humans, although he published an entire book on human evolution in 1871. Thomas Huxley, Darwin’s bulldog, never saw the original fossils either, although he described them in his famous 1863 work, *Man’s Place in Nature*.² That should dispense with the concept that human evolution was based upon fossil evidence.

HOMINID

The word is used by the evolutionist community to mean “humans and their evolutionary ancestors.” It includes the genus *Homo*, the genus *Australopithecus*, and all creatures in the family *Hominidae*. As an evolutionist term it is meaningless in a creationist worldview. The creationist counterpart would include the terms humans and non-human primates. I use the term *human* in this book to refer to those who are descendants of the biblical Adam.

Germany built a two-story museum to celebrate the fossil skull known as Steinheim Man, discovered in 1933. Visitors, however, see only plastic replicas. The fossil itself is kept in a small safe several miles away. This safe is set into the thick stone wall of a 250-year-old military arsenal outside Stuttgart. The fossil’s former home was a bank vault. The story is told that when scientists came to study the fossil, they were blindfolded, driven to the bank, and unmasked

WHEN IT COMES TO HUMAN EVOLUTION,
ONLY THE FOSSILS TELL THE REAL STORY.

With over thirty-five years of research in the areas of creationism and evolutionism, Professor Marvin Lubenow seeks to disprove both the philosophical and scientific untruths in the theory of human evolution.

"This is the most complete and accurate critique of the fossils of the so-called ape-men. Lubenow has made an invaluable contribution to scientific biblical creationism."

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—Ken Ham, president, Answers in Genesis

Cover design: Tobias' Outerwear for Books
www.tobiasdesign.com

Cover photo © Kenneth Garrett/Getty Images

 BakerBooks

Science, Faith, Evolution

ISBN 10: 0-8010-6523-2

ISBN 978-0-8010-6523-1


9 780801 065231