

Battle for the Beginning – Chapter 7
Beasts and Creeping Things
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www.answersincreation.org/battle7.htm

MacArthur divides the sixth day of creation into two chapters. This chapter deals with the creation of the animal kingdom, and the next with mankind.

There is not much of interest in the introduction that we have not already dealt with.

Cattle (Page 143)

Again, there is much God of the Gaps arguments in this section. At the bottom of page 143, he describes rumination. The website dctech.com has a small discussion about this passage. On page 145, MacArthur says "The cow seems to have been especially designed to serve the needs of humanity." I agree...but then again, so can theistic evolutionists. While the cow discussion is interesting, it presents no arguments against evolution or old ages.

In his discussion of sheep, he says they have a lack of instinct and self defense, and are best protected by a shepherd. All animals are best protected by a human protector...when they are in a zoo! He mentions nothing of wild sheep, goats, or others that survive just fine without man. He is referring to domesticated sheep. Yes, there are wild sheep, and then there are domesticated sheep. Sheep have instinct...however, when you domesticate an animal, it loses its fear of humans, and becomes dependent on them.

He closes out this section with a discussion on camels, another "God of the Gaps" discussion.

Creeping Things (Page 147)

He anchors this section with a discussion of the bombardier beetle. This beetle has long been the most used "God of the Gaps" type argument by young earth creationists. Here are the evolutionists' answers to the claims.

The Bombardier Beetle is too complex to have evolved
<http://www.talkorigins.org/indexcc/CB/CB310.html>

The Bombardier Beetle would explode if the ingredients mixed in the Beetle
http://www.talkorigins.org/indexcc/CB/CB310_1.html

General Bombardier Beetle Article
<http://www.talkorigins.org/faqs/bombardier.html>

While I agree with MacArthur that the beetle is the product of intelligent design, an emotional God of the Gaps appeal will not suffice to convince people.

The next two and a half pages are devoted to the wonders of the ant. While informing, it does nothing to argue for young earth creationism. He then jumps to reptiles, and continues his emotional appeal for the beauty and complexity of God's creation. I agree that it is wonderful, but an argument from "gaps" is useless when you are trying to convince an evolutionist.

Beasts of the Earth (Page 151)

Now we come to the creation of the beasts of the earth. Included here are the dinosaurs. He specifically mentions Job 40, the description of Leviathan. For more on this, see Job 40-41 (www.answersincreation.org/job4041a.htm). For more on dinosaurs and proof of their existence long before mankind came along, see our dinosaur section (www.answersincreation.org/dino.htm).

He then returns to his standard God of the Gaps arguments, with a discussion of the elephant. At the end of the chapter, he goes into the Death before Sin issue. He claims that "Scripture teaches that there was no such thing as death prior to Adam's fall." For a complete discussion of this fallacy, see Death Before the Fall (www.answersincreation.org/death.htm). However, if you want instant proof, here it is. Have you ever heard of the Mayfly? It is the shortest-lived insect in the world. The mayfly (*Dolania americana*) female typically lives less than five minutes. During this time they find a mate, reproduce, lay their eggs, and die....all in five minutes (for more, see this article (<http://ufbir.ifas.ufl.edu/chap37.pdf>)).

If God created the mayfly on Day Six of Creation, and it did not die until after Adam's sin, then the Mayfly must have been created at 11:57 P.M., Adam and Eve by 11:59 P.M., and then Adam sinned by 12:02 AM on the seventh day. This is what you must accept if you believe the young earth theory of no death before sin.

In reality, it is true that Adam's sin brought death. However, we are not talking physical death, but spiritual death. Proof of this can be seen in the aforementioned Death Before the Fall article.

He finishes up the chapter with a discussion claiming there were no carnivores before the fall. See the It's All About Teeth article for a refutation of this belief (www.answersincreation.org/teeth.htm).