

\*Mythomachy,  
the war of the myths.

Yesterday (5Jan82), the "scientific creationists" lost (as they should have) in Arkansas. They were wrong in claiming as (nonreligious) "science" an origin-story clearly derived from the West's primary Holy Book (i.e., "OT"): they were right in decrying the "science" monopoly of "evolution" in tax-supported public schools --but could have made a better case by claiming that "evolution" is not "science" but origin-story (i.e., myth). PROBLEM: "Myth" can be seen as origin-STORY only when set alongside another or other origin-stories actually or historically or at least theoretically in competition\* (*Kulturkampf*). Lacking the alongside myth or myths, a people's myth will be presented as fact and thus as truth. The preformative social mind, and thus community itself, requires grounding in both fact (= what is "so") and truth (=what is "right"), and the fact/truth dialectic defines what is "real."....The purpose of this thinksheet is to demonstrate the truth of this alongsidedness by a chart of

Some Competing World-Stories (=Myths)

\*See also #809, #1610, #1611.

	"Evolution" (=Darwinism)*	The Bible
<p>A Brazilian Indian Tribe Alligator....</p>	<p><i>Big Bang</i> Currently, this origin-story seems to give the best account (=make the most sense) of the available astrophysical facts. <u>Probiblical</u> in being against the infinite-universe notion: as materialist, <u>antibiblical</u>.</p>	<p><i>Creation</i> by the Patriarchal (Ab./Isaac/Jacob)-Mosaic-Prophetic (esp."Isaiah") God. This is <u>history-sequential</u>, as col.1 is seasons-seq. and col.2 is evolution-seq. The god is "<u>Lord</u>" (A-S, "guard") and "<u>LORD</u>" (YHWH, guide-companion).</p>
<p>Snake....</p>	<p><i>Spontaneous Generation</i> This submyth says that life emerged "<u>by itself</u>" in a chemo-physical brew that "produced" amino acids etc. etc. This locates the sacred within the chemo-physical process, as did the earliest Greek atheism (viz., 7th-c.BC Ionian atomism). Unable to give transcendent support to "spirit," this submyth is fatally crippled as well as educationally flawed (being child-squelching) and logically absurd (as circular).</p>	<p><i>Confusion</i> The submyth explaining evil (=anti-life, anti-human forces-events) is that <u>disobedience</u> to (objective mode) and <u>betrayal</u> of (subjective mode) the god threw everything into confusion (Gn.3-11, ending with the Tower of Babel).</p>
<p>Turtle....</p>	<p><i>Natural Selection</i> This submyth gives an account of the life/death ("<u>survival</u>") of genera/species/individuals--an account more conformable to middle-Industrial Anglo-American capitalism than to the bio-facts. (See Ashley Montagu's brief for cooperation as fundamental and competition as "only the frosting on the cake.")</p>	<p><i>Cost</i> "The human condition" costs (Darwinism) SWEAT (to overcome ignorance and (Bible) BLOOD (to overcome "sin"))--in Christianity, Jesus' blood, then the martyrs'. <u>Gratitude</u> is the mainspring motive for life "according to God" (a Stoic phrase profoundly appropriated by Judaism and Christianity).</p>
<p>Hawk....</p>	<p><i>Entropy</i> This submyth teaches that the universe is "<u>running down</u>."</p>	<p><i>Clarification</i> By divine action--<u>Torah</u> (instruction/prescription/proscription) and "<u>Grace</u>" (redemption-forgiveness).</p>