You are unique — there is no one else on earth exactly like you! The Bible tells us that God created people in the beginning; we did not evolve from ape-like ancestors — and later a butterfly or moth emerges. This

caterpillars spin a cocoon around themselves which hatch into caterpillars. After a while the eggs of a type of Tiger Moth

One species takes 14 years to become a fully-fledged moth! How does it survive for so long? Amaz-ingly it freezes solid! First its heart stops beating, then its gut freezes, then its blood, followed by the rest of the body. And it does this every year for 14 bitter Arctic winters before it goes through the chrysalis stage and turns into a moth. The moths feed for a few weeks during the short Arctic summer, and lay their eggs, before dying. The eggs hatch, and the whole cycle begins again.

Woolly Bear caterpillars only survive the bitter cold because their bodies make a special ‘anti-freeze.’ This couldn’t have evolved gradually, otherwise they wouldn’t have survived even one winter. We believe that God, the Creator, designed them the way they are.

Because Jesus rose from the dead, all Christians can look forward because of their faith in Jesus.

All of us have colour in our skin (it’s called melanin), though some have more than others. So some people have dark skin, others have light skin, and there are lots of shades in between. But there is only one race — the human race, and we are all equal in God’s sight.

The idea that we evolved from ape-like ancestors has led to the belief that some humans are more evolved than others. In many parts of the world people live in modern towns and cities, while some live in houses made of mud and grass, and hunt for food. But this doesn’t mean they are “primitive” or less intelligent. The Bible tells us that all people descended from the ark-builder Noah and his family, and that after the flood, people were clever enough to build cities. When they began to spread out around the world, some people lost these skills and began to live more simply, though this is often because they are poor. Given the opportunity, they can quickly learn these skills and improve their way of life. Many Christian charities are helping them to do this.
EVOLUTION AND RACISM

Racist ideas have been around for hundreds of years, but Charles Darwin’s evolution theories, published in the 19th century, gave some people an excuse to be racist. Darwin (right) believed that black people — whom he called the “lower races” — were closely related to apes. He believed they would eventually die out and white Europeans would dominate. Some people used his ideas to do some terrible things, believing they were “helping evolution”. German general Adolph Hitler believed Jews and black people were inferior and murdered six million Jews. He was very upset when black athlete Jesse Owens (below) won 4 gold medals in the 1936 Berlin Olympics. He didn’t believe black people were capable of such achievements.

Until quite recently, in some countries, including America and South Africa, black people were treated as inferior, and banned from mixing with white people in schools, and on buses. Racism is now against the law in most countries, but black people are still sometimes the victims of hatred.

There is good evidence that the erectus people were not only as intelligent as modern humans, but that they built ships and sailed across the oceans. There was nothing “primitive” about them!

An insult to black people

Evolutionists believe we evolved from ape-like ancestors. When they draw pictures of our supposed ancestors they often show them with dark skin. This is an insult to black people, who are just as human as those with lighter skin.

On the left is a skeleton of Homo erectus. Nearly all scientists believe the erectus people were fully human, yet the drawing of erectus on the right shows a man with dark skin. This gives people the false idea that dark skin is more primitive.

NATURE NOTES

People have been making clay pots for centuries. Clay pots come in all sorts of shapes and sizes (left), and are used for many different things. It’s fascinating to watch a potter at work. A lump of wet clay is placed on a wheel, and as the wheel turns the potter’s hands shape the clay into whatever style and size is required, before the pot is fired in a kiln. Sometimes pots are glazed, and a pattern may be added before firing.

Did you know that humans didn’t invent pottery? Some wasps — called potter wasps — also make pots from wet mud, which hardens into clay. The finished nests look like pots shaped on a potter’s wheel. With a narrow neck, they are a safe place for the wasps to lay their eggs, and as they are made of clay they can be used over again. Did potter wasps have to gradually learn how to make these nests? This seems very unlikely. It makes more sense to believe that God created them with the instinct to do this right from the beginning.

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The SHAME of slavery

There was a time, not so long ago, when millions of African people were kidnapped. They were then put on ships, and taken to America and the West Indian islands. Many died on the way, but those who arrived were sold in markets as slaves. Many were forced to do hard work on sugar plantations. They were often treated cruelly and beaten if they didn’t work hard enough. These people were treated so badly because they were black, and white people thought they had the right to use them as slaves. In the 18th century some people in England began a campaign to end slavery. One of them was William Wilberforce, a Member of Parliament. He believed that all humans were created in God’s image and that using other people as slaves was a sin against God. He was helped by a number of other people who shared his belief, including Thomas Clarkson and Hannah More. It wasn’t until 1833 that Parliament abolished slavery in the British Empire, more than 40 years after Wilberforce began his campaign. During his life he also helped to improve the conditions in factories and prisons. He did all this because he believed that human beings were equal and special.

PEOPLE WERE TREATED AS ANIMALS!

When white Europeans first went to Australia, they found people with dark skin (aborigines) already living there. The white people treated the aborigines cruelly, believing they were less human than themselves. Many aborigines were captured and put in special camps and some were even shot. Some people believed that aborigines had no souls, and that it was a waste of time telling them about Jesus. This was completely wrong: The Bible says that Jesus came to die for all Adam’s descendants, which includes the aborigines. Today thousands of aborigines are Christians.

One aborigine, Douglas Nicholls, (left), who was born in 1906, became an athlete, a Christian minister with the Churches of Christ, and the Governor of South Australia. He was also honoured by Queen Elizabeth 2nd. This proved that aborigines, like all human beings, are capable of achieving great things.

Man caged with apes!

In 1904, a young man named Ota Benga (right), was brought from the Belgian Congo to America by explorer Samuel Verner. He was put on show with apes at the St Louis World’s Fair, in spite of protests from Christian ministers.

PUZZLE CORNER

(Answers on the next page)

Can you spot 10 differences between these two pictures?

Use a mirror to read this Bible verse

YOU MADE HIM WITH GLORY AND HONOUR

AND YOU CROWNED HIM WITH GLORY AND HONOUR.