

You will seek Me and find Me when you search for Me with all your heart. Jeremiah 29:13

Dear Susan,

Thank you for writing us at Christian Questions. You wanted to know where Neanderthal man fit into human history. You wondered if they existed before the biblical account.

As students of the Bible, we believe the Bible is the divine word of God. Therefore, we believe the Genesis account of the creation of Adam and Eve as the first human beings to be placed on the earth. No other human beings or sub-humans came before them. We found an interesting article from the website gotquestions.org that explains and debunks the Neanderthal man theory. Here is a quote from the article:

"The Bible does not use the term "caveman" or "Neanderthals," and according to the Bible there is no such thing as "prehistoric" man. The term "prehistoric" means "belonging to the era before recorded history." It presupposes that the biblical account is merely a fabrication, because the book of Genesis records events that precede the creation of man... The Bible is clear that Adam and Eve were perfect humans from the time of their creation and did not evolve from lower life forms.

"With that said, the Bible does describe a period of traumatic upheaval upon the earth - the flood (<u>Genesis 6-9</u>), during which time civilization was utterly destroyed except for eight people. Humanity was forced to start over. It is in this historical context that some scholars believe men lived in caves and made use of stone tools. These men were not primitive; they were simply destitute. And they certainly were not half ape. The fossil evidence is quite clear: cavemen were human - men who lived in caves.

"There are some fossilized ape remains which Darwinian paleo-anthropologists interpret as being some sort of transition between ape and men. Most people seem to think of these interpretations when they imagine cavemen. They picture furry half-men, half-ape creatures crouched in a cave next to a fire, drawing on the walls with their newly developed stone tools. This is a common misconception. And as far as Darwinian paleo-anthropology goes, we should keep in mind that these interpretations reflect a peculiar worldview and are not the result of the evidence. In fact, not only is there major opposition to these interpretations within the academic community, the Darwinists themselves do not entirely agree with each other on the details.

"Unfortunately, the popular mainstream view promotes this idea that man and ape both evolved from the same ancestor, but this is certainly not the only plausible interpretation of the available evidence. In fact, the evidence





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in favor of this particular interpretation is lacking.

"When God created Adam and Eve, they were fully developed human beings, capable of communication, society, and development (<u>Genesis 2:19-25; 3:1-20; 4:1-12</u>). It is almost entertaining to consider the lengths evolutionary scientists go to prove the existence of prehistoric cavemen. They find a misshapen tooth in a cave and from that create a misshapen human being who lived in a cave, hunched over like an ape. There is no way that science can prove the existence of cavemen by a fossil. Evolutionary scientists simply have a theory, and then they force the evidence to fit the theory. Adam and Eve were the first human beings ever created and were fully-formed, intelligent, and upright."

Did Neanderthal man exist before the biblical account? No, Adam and Eve were the first humans on earth. We hope the above information has been helpful. Be sure to sign up for CQ Rewind at <u>www.christianquestions.com</u>. The service is free without obligation and will provide you with scriptural perspective on many questions and topics.

Sincerely,

Christian Questions

