



BIBLE & SCIENCE



An interdenominational group from Worcester's local churches

You are invited to hear:

Professor Simon Conway Morris

On the topic of:

Did Evolution have to end with Human Beings?



Tuesday 18 March 2014, 8.00pm.

Lindisfarne House, 4 Barbourne Terrace, Worcester, WR1 3JS.

You are warmly invited to the last Bible and Science Worcester talk in our current series in which Professor Simon Conway Morris of Cambridge University presents his views on 'Did Evolution have to end with Human Beings?'

Simon says of his talk: 'Christians and evolutionary biologists are like oil and water: they don't mix too well. Here I will try to use the oil, not as a libation, but to calm the waters. Evolution is true, it happens and that is the world as it is. Does this reduce us to insignificance, one puzzled ape hanging on for grim death on the vast arborescence we call the Tree of Life? Not at all. Any such existentialist judgement presupposes a theory of meaning, and all we want to ask is how evolution allowed us to get to a stage where we could even begin to ask, let alone attempt to answer, that question. In evolution convergence, self-organization and co-option together suggest the outcomes are far more restricted than is usually believed. Something like a human is very much on the cards. If so, then we might take comfort that meaning is valid, but there is a twist in this tale....'

The evening will be split into three short sessions, with time for questions. You do not need to be either a scientist or a Christian to participate – we aim to make the evenings accessible to all.

Professor Simon Conway Morris has held the Chair in Evolutionary Palaeobiology in the Earth Sciences Department in Cambridge University since 1995, with a particular research interest in the early evolution of the metazoans. He became a fellow at St John's College Cambridge in 1975, having taken a first class honours degree in Geology from Bristol University. His initial appointment to the Earth Sciences department was as a lecturer in 1979. He was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society in 1990.

In 1992, Simon Conway Morris was the Selby Visiting Fellow at the Australian Academy of Sciences. In 2000 he gave both the Tarner Lectures for Trinity College and was the Marker Lecturer at Penn State University. He has received numerous awards and medals including, in 1998, the Lyell Medal of the Geological Society of London. He has also appeared on TV and Radio, including the Royal Institution Christmas Lectures for the BBC in 1996.

All welcome – entry, parking & refreshments free – suggested donation of £3 towards expenses

Queries to 01905 641987

For more information, see our NEW website: www.bibleandscienceworcester.org.uk