

# What is man?

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Since a little over one century, after the consolidation of evolutionist theories, and getting from them philosophical consequences without a scientific basis, many biologists assert that man is an animal like any other, one between millions of species of living beings, being impossible to set criteria that help us decide if one species is *more advanced* or *more important* than any other.

Is this true? I think it evident that those criteria do exist, that we should not be denied the ability to compare and judge, two capabilities that have made all our technological advances possible. I'll mention just two of those criteria:

- The origin of life, about 4000 million years ago, did not have an immediately observable impact on the physical aspect of the earth. A few changes in the water hue, or the apparition of reefs of cyanobacteria. Nonetheless, the action of life on Earth continued slowly, culminating about 1000 million years ago in a new composition of the atmosphere with 20 percent oxygen, making respiration possible.

With multi-cellular living beings, the physical appearance of the Earth changed deeply: the dominant color of continents became green. Of the three kingdoms at this level of life, plant produced the largest impact: fungi and animals are practically imperceptible from outer space.

In the last centuries, the situation has changed: for good or evil, the human species by itself has modified the appearance of our planet. The surface of the tropical forests is getting less; a large proportion of living species are in danger; holes in the ozonosphere turn up; the night sky is full of light; and, for the first time in its history, the Earth has become an emitter of low frequency electromagnetic waves (radio and microwave), making our existence detectable by hypothetical extraterrestrial intelligences. A single species has done this in a terrifically short time, compared to the history of the Earth.

- On the other hand, in very recent years, the human species has come to manage a huge amount of information, over one quintillion bits ( $10^{18}$ ), a number still growing. Compare this figure with the information computed at the maximum by any other species, from bacteria to chimpanzees: between one million and 200 million bits, seven to twelve orders of magnitude below ours. The information at our disposal may already be higher than the total amount of information accumulated by the hundred million species of living beings considered to have existed from the origin of life to our time, assuming that it makes any sense to add it all together.

Is man a species like any other? No. By their fruit you'll recognize them. In my opinion, biological classification should give man at least the rank of a kingdom of nature, maybe more: something totally apart. This is precisely what it was considered during all the history of mankind, until some biologists in the twentieth century started their continuous and surreptitious work of undermining human dignity.