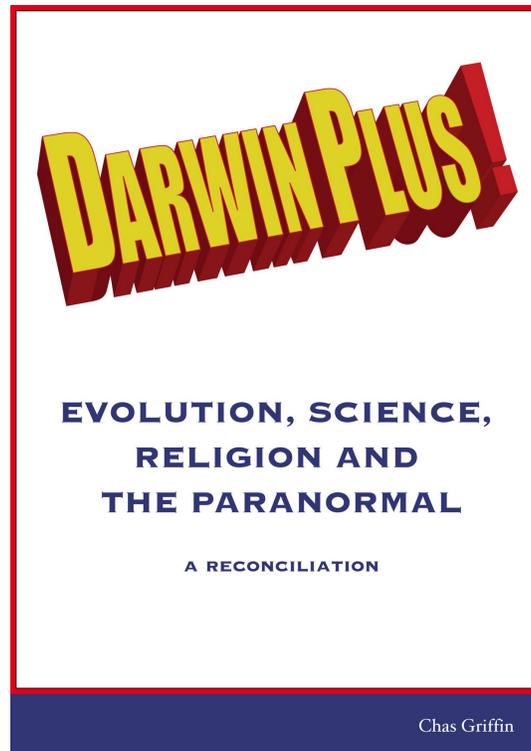


Précis of 'DarwinPlus!' ('D+')



'DarwinPlus!' began as an enquiry into why science (generally) rejects all evidence for ghosts. I chose to use strict logic as my guide.

To my surprise I discovered that the problem lies with science's *dogmatic* support for Materialism, a philosophy can never accept anything 'paranormal', despite the mass of evidence collated down the centuries. A Materialist-scientist can obviously not accept anything remotely 'religious' either.

Along with this a priori rejection of potential evidence goes the erroneous belief of most scientists that 'Scientist' must mean 'Materialist'.

I examine Materialism and show it to be not only irrational in principle, but that there is also no actual evidence to support it; and as science is a *methodology*, it should never hold any dogma, especially not an irrational one.

I investigate the sole alternative to Materialism (Idealism), and note that it will at least allow for the paranormal/religion, although it offers no immediate explanation.

Although the 'Desert Religions' are all basically Idealist, they are clogged with confusing dogma; and the great philosophers have little to offer, either. However, the (Idealist) yogic/esoteric philosophy *does* offer some sort of explanation for ghosts and also a credible (if incomplete) explanation for NDE's, OOBIE's, visions, Ouija, mediumship, and many other current paranormal mysteries, including religion, in a way that Materialism never can.

I show how and when I think Science and Religion drifted apart, and suggest that the very simple way to reconcile them is to simply drop Materialism. Nothing else is *absolutely* required, as religions are ultimately just Idealist philosophies, which, once all the man-made dogmas are trimmed off, are easily compatible with the yogic/esoteric understanding and with the empiricism required by science.

I also discover that most of the truly great scientists (Copernicus, Darwin, Wallace, Maxwell, Mendel, Faraday, Newton, Einstein, etc) were not Materialists. Hence science has nothing to fear from dropping Materialism.

An Idealist science can openly investigate hypnotism and intuition, and all the other mental processes that are currently avoided if possible by Materialism, and only 'explained', if pushed, by invoking the spontaneous creation of something from nothing (eg Mind from no-mind): ie, by a routine appeal to the very 'magic' that science itself claims to despise.

I also find that all religions are more similar than many followers think, and that at the philosophical level, they all have (the same) something of great value to say.

The 'DarwinPlus!' of the title refers to a rational extension of the theory of evolution, working from an Idealist base.

Chas Griffin

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