

Compatibility between Evolutionary Biology and Classical Catholic Natural Law Theory*

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Although it is a well-known fact that the Catholic Church is not opposed to the evolutionary theory as Fundamental and Evangelical Christians do, how Catholic thinkers draw theological implications from evolution is not widely known. The objective of this article is to examine one of the theological implications derived from evolutionary biology construed by the Catholic Church. It is important to emphasize that the author endorses neither evolutionary biology nor Catholic theology. Rather, the following discussion is built on a “what-if” fashion. To be specific, if evolution were right, would it have generated a world view that is incompatible with Catholic theology? If the Catholic Church were correct that evolution and Christian beliefs are free of contradiction, did she give a defensible rationale? Sometimes it is difficult to maintain a dialog when a quick judgment is made against notions that are seemingly incompatible with one’s own theological tradition. Here I urge the readers to keep an open mind to

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