

Science and Christianity

This is the last session on our series regarding some of the most common objections to the Christian faith. Thus far we have look at:

- Why God Allows Suffering
- What About Other Religions
- Sexual Purity
- The New Age Movement
- The Trinity

Is the Christian faith “anti” science. We historically there have been a few times when the church and the scientific community were at odds.

Galileo and the Roman Catholic Church regarding earth as the center of the solar system. (1564-1642)

John T. Scopes – 1925 – Drayton, TN taught evolution in public school in violation of state law.

However, most of the early pioneers in science, math, astronomy, physics, etc. were involved in their Christian faith and were “discovering” the creator through studying and learning about God’s divine creation.

- Copernicus
- Galileo
- Kepler
- Newton
- Faraday

As we move through the enlightenment and into the modern era this has changed dramatically. Spinoza, Hume, Planck, and many others rejected Christianity as an explanation for creation and the biblical explanation of creation, purpose for man, purpose for life, the afterlife, and miracles.

Hume – miracles are a violation of the laws of nature

Spinoza – miracles contravene nature’s universal laws

Planck – Faith in miracles must yield ground, step by step, before the steady and firm advance of the forces of science, and its total defeat is indubitably a mere matter of time.

So, the real discussion is about this question, “Is there a God?”

If yes, then miracles are of no concern. God made matter, gave us reason, time, space, and all the scientific, and natural laws of nature. God is also able to interfere and interact with His creation for His purposes.

If no, then miracles are no problem.

This also leads to the second major question – evolution or creation?

Microevolution – a variation or development within a species – breeding better cows, horses, chickens, etc. are possible, however they results remain within the same species.

Macroevolution – is the movement from one species into a new species – ape to human

Macroevolution is simply a theory that has never been observed. It has not been proven. Unfortunately, it has become the standard explanation for the origin of life and taught as truth in most of our education system.

Darwin did not know about DNA when he wrote his theory. DNA completely undoes his hypothesis. DNA determines the species.

Evolution – a tornado went through a junkyard and a Boeing 747 was the result.

It is easier to believe God created something out of nothing than to believe nothing created something out of nothing.

Genesis Chapter 1 – Biblical Creation

- Day One - light
- Day Two – division of the waters above and below.
- Day Three – seas and the earth (waters below); vegetation on the earth
- Day Four – Sun, moon, stars; separation of day and night
- Day Five – water life and air (fowls) life created
- Day Six – animals created, and Adam created
- Day Seven – God creates the sabbath and a day of rest

Literal seven days? – creation instant and complete through the unlimited power of God

1000 years is a day? – creation evolves over prolonged period of time.

No death until the fall

No fossils until the flood – argument against evolution because they use the fossil record as evidence

Main point of Genesis 1 is not about the “how” and “when” (scientific) but about the “who” and “why” (theological)

Scripture offers a personal explanation, not a scientific explanation of the creation.

Stephen Hawking – science may solve the problem of how the universe began, but it can not answer the question: why does the universe bother to exist?

John Lennox quote, page 98-99 Searching Issues Book

God and His creation – general knowledge of God revealed in the creation – Romans 1:20; Acts 14:17; Acts 17:22-28; Psalm 19:1-4

Intelligent Design – evidence of a creator

- Rotation of the earth
- Distance from the sun
- Oxygen and Co2 – trees give us life, we give them life
- The giraffe
- The water molecule
- Water cycle – all rivers run to the sea, yet sea is never full – Eccl 1:7
- Laminin

Albert Einstein – a legitimate conflict between science and religion cannot exist. Science without religion is lame; religion without science is blind.

Science does not give meaning or purpose to our existence. It has no answers for loneliness, forgiveness, broken hearts, guilt, love, and the deepest levels of human experience. This is found in the creator Himself, revealed through His Son Jesus Christ.