

It's Not About Science

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This whole Creation vs. Evolution debate is simply not about science. While there is evidence in the world of what it once was, the evidence does not conclusively *prove* any theory of origins. Please don't be confused. I am speaking specifically about origins, not about observable, repeatable science that clearly supports a variety of theories and hypotheses made by scientists throughout recorded history. In my opinion, the Creation vs. Evolution debate is about whether we believe God, or more specifically, whether we trust Him completely. I think faith is where the rubber meets the road. Faith that saves is the belief that "Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; and that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures," (1Corinthians 15:3b-4) and that He therefore can and will save me. Faith that lives is the ongoing, daily act of trusting Jesus to fulfill His Word in our lives, believing that His every Word is true and right.

As a Christian, I have chosen to believe God. Jesus' historicity is indisputable, and His miracles and resurrection are well documented. Some would differ with the evidence, but they are normally those who would believe we come from aliens or from a complex chemical soup if it were the only alternative to a Creator Who judges His creation. I believe that Jesus was and is the Son of God: the Messiah promised through the line of David. His fulfilling of direct messianic prophecy is clearly evident in the scriptures. Again, some would differ, but only those who will not accept an Almighty God to Whom they must submit themselves. The Gospels and many of the epistles in the New Testament were written too early after Jesus' life and death for them to be legend, and the entire Bible is the absolute best early manuscript-supported ancient text in the world. I've made many assertions in this paragraph without providing evidence, but I've done that on purpose so that those who want to know God will seek to know more about Him and so that those who wish to scoff will continue in blindness. The seekers will find.

If I believe God, and I believe that Jesus is God, and I have seen the work of the Holy Spirit of God in my life and in the lives of others, then it stands to reason that I should take Him at His Word, believing Him completely. This takes us to the Creation vs. Evolution debate. The evolutionists not only bring into question the truth of the first book of the Bible, Genesis; they also bring into question the entire Bible and Jesus Himself. See, if evolution is true, Jesus is a liar. If He is a liar, He cannot be God. If He is a liar, He can save nobody from eternal separation from God in Hell. If He is a liar, then every good thing He did is worthless. Of course, I don't believe Jesus is a liar. Some Christians, however, compromise the Word of God – the words of Jesus – in order to agree with the wisdom of the world. Many passages in the New Testament condemn such a practice:

Romans 12:2 "And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what [is] that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God."

James 4:4 "Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? Whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God."

1Corinthians 3:19 "For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God. For it is written, He taketh the wise in their own craftiness."

Why do I consider evolutionists, including theistic evolutionists, gap theorists, and day-age theorists to be among those who say Jesus is a liar? Because what they teach is in direct opposition to the words that Jesus spoke. Is Jesus in Genesis? Can we believe in Jesus without believing the world was created as Genesis describes? What does the Bible teach us? John chapter one says that the "Word became flesh and dwelt among us," establishing Jesus as the Word of God that is "quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and [is] a discernor of the

thoughts and intents of the heart.” (Hebrews 4:12) Next, Jesus is described as Creator: “All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.” (John 1:3) Finally, Jesus confirms the truth of the Genesis account of creation and its account of the flood by alluding to them in His own words:

Matthew 19:4-5 “And he answered and said unto them, Have ye not read, that *he which made [them] at the beginning made them male and female*, And said, For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife: and they twain shall be one flesh?” (Parallel passage: Mark 10:6)

Matthew 24:38-39 “For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered into the ark, And knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.”

Mark 13:19 “For [in] those days shall be affliction, such as was not from the *beginning of the creation which God created* unto this time, neither shall be.”

These passages are not the only New Testament evidence that presents itself for the creation as Genesis tells it. The writers of the New Testament, many of whom were taught by Jesus Himself, make many allusions to the creation and to the flood of Noah. Usually, they do this in order to make people remember that they belong to God and will be judged. Is there any Christian who would say the writers of the New Testament are liars? Not outright. However, many do say these writers are liars when they compromise faith in God for the wisdom of the world in the Creation vs. Evolution debate. Below are a few of the passages to which I refer:

2Peter 3:3-7 “Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts, And saying, “Where is the promise of his coming? For since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as [they were] from the beginning of the creation.” For **this** they willingly are ignorant of, that *by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of the water and in the water: Whereby the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished: But the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men.*”

2Peter 2:5 “And spared not the old world, but saved Noah the eighth [person], a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood upon the world of the ungodly;”

Hebrews 11:7 “By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith.”

1Peter 3:18-20 “For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit: By which also he went and preached unto the spirits in prison; Which sometime were disobedient, when once the longsuffering of God waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was a preparing, wherein few, that is, eight souls were saved by water.”

Luke 3:38 “Which was [the son] of Enos, which was [the son] of Seth, which was [the son] of Adam, which was [the son] of God.” (Genealogy of Jesus)

Romans 5:14 “Nevertheless death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over them that had not sinned after the similitude of Adam's transgression, who is the figure of him that was to come.”

1Corinthians 15:22 “For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive.”

1Corinthians 15:45 “And so it is written, the first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam [was made] a quickening spirit.”

1Timothy 2:12 “But I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence. For Adam was first formed, then Eve. And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression.”

Jude 1:14-15 “And Enoch also, the *seventh from Adam*, prophesied of these, saying, Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints, To execute judgment upon all, and to convince all that are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have ungodly committed, and of all their hard [speeches] which ungodly sinners have spoken against him.”

There are many other verses in the New Testament that refer to the creation and the flood, and there are many in the Old Testament as well. The most prominent of these verses is the one written on stone with God’s own finger, Exodus 20:11: “**For [in] six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them [is]**, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day, and hallowed it.” As a Christian, this is all the evidence I need of the historicity of the Genesis accounts. Viewing the world from the creation paradigm, I am amazed at the plethora of natural evidence God has left us in this world of His creation and of His judgment. All fields of science, usually inadvertently, support the Genesis accounts as well. Evolutionary scientists do not like this, and they take great pains to set forth in the media stories of discoveries that support evolution. If you read carefully, however, all of their interpretations of the evidence are based on assumptions of long periods of time and the “fact” that higher animals and plants arose from lower animals and plants. It is important for the Christian to view these people in the same way God views them. They are much like the Pharisees were in that they put themselves on the pedestal of knowledge and power and refuse to submit to God. They trust in their own wisdom and reject that there is a God Who is omnipotent, omniscient, and omnipresent. They do not want to be subject to Almighty God, so they make themselves gods by setting forth the idea that God did not create, does not own, and cannot judge. Below are two passages in the New Testament that speak of the worldly intellectuals:

2Peter 3:5 “For this *they willingly are ignorant of*, that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of the water and in the water:”

Romans 1:20 “For *the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, [even] his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse*: Because that, when they knew God, they glorified [him] not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened. *Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools, and changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and fourfooted beasts, and creeping things*. Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonor their own bodies between themselves: *Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen.*”

The conclusion any Christian should draw from the evidence in the Bible is that Genesis is meant by God to be a historical account of what He did and when He did it, just like the historical accounts of the Flood, the Exodus, the conquering and inheritance of Canaan, the periods of the Judges and the Kings, the building of the Temple, the Babylonian Exile, and the Advent of Jesus Christ our Lord, Savior, Creator, and holy, flawless Word of God. Christians can intellectualize about the account of creation in Genesis, saying that there are millions of years between verses one and two, or even saying as the Catholics do that it is an inspired creation story made to be a comparison to the second Adam, Jesus. If those who would intellectualize and pontificate would look at the plain text of Genesis, however, and the supporting scriptures throughout the Bible, they would be forced to admit the fact that each of the creation days is a day (morning and evening) and that God claims to have created EVERYTHING during creation week, including the sun, moon, stars, and the earth itself. Because

of these facts, the Christian who wants to trust God and believe His Word but does not want to appear to be unintelligent in the world is in a predicament.

Many of these Christians will expound on the scriptures with great confidence and boldness, then bow out of a discussion on creation. Why? It is because of fear of the judgment of man. Everything we know about our Holy God tells us to fear Him alone:

Luke 12:5 “But I will forewarn you whom ye shall fear: Fear him, which after he hath killed hath power to cast into hell; yea, I say unto you, Fear him.”

Isaiah 8:13 “Sanctify the LORD of hosts himself; and [let] him [be] your fear, and [let] him [be] your dread.”

Joshua 24:14 “Now therefore fear the LORD, and serve him in sincerity and in truth: and **put away the gods which your fathers served on the other side of the flood**, and in Egypt; and serve ye the LORD.”

Revelation 14:7 “Saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come: and **worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters.**”

Knowing the greatness, jealousy, and judgment of our great God, still there are Christians who are afraid of the opinions of men. Doesn't God make it clear that our lives on this planet are only a vapor? Doesn't He prove again and again that He is above all, even the intellectuals of this world – especially the intellectuals of this world? Our God scoffs at the wisdom of men. Why? Look at Job! God says of Job's accuser, Elihu, the wisest of the four, who claimed to be God's spokesman, “Who is this that darkeneth counsel by words without knowledge?” and goes on to ask Job scores of questions that serve to demonstrate man's ignorance and impotence in grasping the incredible wisdom, power, and knowledge of God, the first of which is “Where wast thou when I laid the foundations of the earth?” In Isaiah, God proclaims that His thoughts and ways are not our thoughts and ways. Jesus, God in the flesh, rebuked the intellectuals of His day because they were too puffed up in their own wisdom to humble themselves and repent before an omnipotent God. Yet, even with these examples of the foolishness that is man's wisdom, there are Christians who believe the intellectuals of the day who deny and defy God rather than believe God and look like fools to men. To this, I say with Paul,

1Corinthians 3:18-20 “Let no man deceive himself. If any man among you seemeth to be wise in this world, let him become a fool, that he may be wise. For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God. For it is written, He taketh the wise in their own craftiness. And again, The Lord knoweth the thoughts of the wise, that they are vain.”

Indeed, the Creation vs. Evolution debate is not about science. For the Christian, it is about faith. It is easy to believe God when our faith is not challenged, but believing the Word of God concerning creation and rejecting the wisdom of the seemingly wisest and most respected worldly men is hard. Be encouraged, Christian, God is for us, and “if God be for us, who can be against us?” Stand strong, and be courageous in your faith in God's whole Word! The more you trust Him, the more He will confirm your faith and build it. The important thing is to trust God:

Proverbs 3:5-6 “Trust in the Lord with all thine heart, and **lean not unto thine own understanding**. In all thy ways, acknowledge Him, and He shall direct thy paths.”

2Samual 22:31 “[As for] God, his way [is] perfect; the word of the LORD [is] tried: he [is] a buckler to all them that trust in him.”

Psalms 56:11 “In God have I put my trust: I will not be afraid what man can do unto me.”

Proverbs 30:5 “Every word of God [is] pure: he [is] a shield unto them that put their trust in him.”

1Thessalonians 2:4 “But as we were allowed of God to be put in trust with the gospel, even so we speak; **not as pleasing men**, but God, which trieth our hearts.”

1Corinthians 1:21 “For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe.”

Hebrews 11:1-6 “Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. For by it the **elders** obtained a good report. **Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.** By faith **Abel** offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, by which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts: and by it he being dead yet speaketh. By faith **Enoch** was translated that he should not see death; and was not found, because God had translated him: for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God. But **without faith [it is] impossible to please [him]**: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and [that] he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.”