

Where did everything come from?

For the bible believing Christian one of the things that gets thrown at them to attempt to discredit their faith is the fact that the scriptures point to a 6 day creation and a much younger earth than non-theists espouse. This lesson is an attempt to give VERY BASIC ways to look at some of the supposed problems of creation vs. evolution.

Terms

Creationism: *The belief that the bible's account is an accurate depiction of how God created the universe, earth, and everything contained in it.* No creationist believes that the Bible gives every detail as to "how" it happened. The bible is not a science book yet it does give a picture of how just not every detail.

Intelligent Design: *the theory that life, or the universe, cannot have arisen by chance and was designed and created by some intelligent entity.* Creationism is not the same thing but they often times overlap.

Macro-Evolution: *the process by which different kinds of living organisms are thought to have developed and diversified from earlier forms during the history of the earth.* [This is not observable]

Micro-Evolution: *evolutionary change within a species or small group of organisms, especially over a short period.* [This is observable] Rational Christians do not reject this.

Scientific Method: *a method of procedure that has characterized natural science since the 17th century, consisting in systematic observation, measurement, and experiment, and the formulation, testing, and modification of hypotheses.*

No matter one's view on the origins of life there is no view that is not without challenges or unanswerable questions.

Issue of Time: Why do dating methods date the earth as much older than is purposed in the bible?

- One false assumption is that all or even most dating methods agree on the age of the earth.
- Christian response: God created things with age on them. Example: How old were Adam and Eve when they were created? At one hour old they walked, talked, and they were smarter than anyone in this room. They were created as adults. How many rings did the trees have when they were created? We don't know but it is not difficult for us to think that they were mature trees with many rings.

Life from Nonlife: This is a problem for the nontheistic individual as they must find a cause for life to have begun. This proposal is actually counter to science.

- This is necessary for evolution to be the cause of the life that we see today.
- There are those who hold to the position that God used evolution which brings up as many or more problems as it solves.

Simple life to Complex life: There is no known observable process by which new genetic information can be added to an organism's genetic code.

Jesus affirms the creation account

Mark 10:6-9

But from the beginning of creation, 'God made them male and female.' ⁷ 'Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, ⁸ and the two shall become one flesh.' So they are no longer two but one flesh. ⁹ What therefore God has joined together, let not man separate."

Jesus predicted his death and resurrection

Mark 10:32-34

³² And they were on the road, going up to Jerusalem, and Jesus was walking ahead of them. And they were amazed, and those who followed were afraid. And taking the twelve again, he began to tell them what was to happen to him, ³³ saying, "See, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be delivered over to the chief priests and the scribes, and they will condemn him to death and deliver him over to the Gentiles. ³⁴ And they will mock him and spit on him, and flog him and kill him. And after three days he will rise."

Jesus' prediction are proven to be true

Mark 16:5-8

⁵ And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a white robe, and they were alarmed. ⁶ And he said to them, "Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen; he is not here. See the place where they laid him. ⁷ But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going before you to Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you." ⁸ And they went out and fled from the tomb, for trembling and astonishment had seized them, and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

Even in the creation debate Jesus comes to the center of the conversation. If Jesus is who Christians claim him to be, God who is incarnate, then He should know about creation and would not speak a falsehood. The fact is if Jesus was not who Christians claim Him to be then we are all in trouble for a many different reasons.