

April 11, 2021

Walk in Truth, Walk in Love Pt 13

Biology – Christ is the True Source of Life

In this series we are working our way through 10 “Worldview Puzzle Pieces” of a Biblical Worldview. We have addressed both Theology and Philosophy, now we move to the puzzle piece of Biology. I believe it is vital that we look at Biology through the lens of both Theology and Philosophy. In summary, our Theology (what we believe about God) and our Philosophy (how we know truth and wisdom) are vital in a serious discussion of Biology.

Biology – is the study of life. It’s origin, source and how life operates.

It is vital to have the proper biblical worldview on the origin of life and specifically mankind... as David Nobles writes (p. 49. Thinking Like a Christian) “Are we a little ‘higher’ than the apes, or a little ‘lower’ than the angels”? Are we made by ‘random chance’ or ‘made in the Image of God’?

Genesis 1:1,26...¹ *In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.*²⁶ *Then God said, “Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness.* (HCSB)

Psalms 8:4,5...⁴ *what is mankind that you are mindful of them, human beings that you care for them?* ⁵ *You have made them a little lower than the angels and crowned them with glory and honor.* (NIV)

Through the ages, among the majority of the Christian world there was always an understanding that God was the Creator, sustainer and guider of all life. However, in the last few hundred years there has developed a type of war between Science and Faith. In this section of the Biblical Worldview, we will address a few topics on the subject of Biology, Science and the Faith connection.

David Noebels in his book “*Thinking Like a Christian*” makes these comments....

“Science is re-learning an old lesson: the more one discovers about the universe, the more one discovers design”. (p.47)

“When all relevant lines of evidence are taken into account, and all the problems squarely faced, I think we must conclude that life owes its inception to a source outside of nature.” (Dean Kenyon, Biochemist and former Chemical Evolutionist)

It is a sad situation that many in the ‘scientific community’ have bought into the Evolutionary Model of chance and random development. Much of this is due to a Theological issue...they do not want to admit to the existence and thus the control of an outside creator...namely God. And a Philosophy issue, in that they do not truly seek eternal, absolute truth from any source outside human reason and effort.

I want to be clear about my viewpoint as we start. I am not anti-science or anti-intellectual, I am actually very pro-science, and pro-intellectualism, I just believe it is clear that true science, true intellect and thus true wisdom and insight can only come from the Creator and Author of all that exists...namely God!

In all honesty, it is unfortunate that many Christians in the past and present, have taken a narrow, closed minded approach to many issues in these areas and thus have come off too many people as being ignorant or anti-science. As Christians we need to be the best educated and most knowledgeable of all people. We do have, by the way, the very source of life and all wisdom dwelling within us.

“The roots of modern science are grounded in a Christian/Biblical Worldview. This is not surprising, since science is based on the assumption that the universe is orderly and can be expected to act according to specific, discoverable laws. An ordered, lawful universe would seem to be the effect an Intelligent Cause, a Divine Intelligent Designer”. (p, 51. Noebels)

“The religious idea of a Transcendent Creator actually made possible, rather than hindered, the progress of scientific understanding of the natural order: (Landon Gilkey. P. 51. Noebles)

The bottom-line question we need to address is... “Whom should we trust regarding important conversations about the nature of life and its origins” (Meyers & Noebels. *Understanding the Times*. P. 255)

Major Issues Confronting A Biblical Worldview:

1. Evolutionary, Humanistic, Secularist Philosophy

“Microevolution: the belief that small, adaptive changes are capable of producing variations within a gene pool of a species.

Macroevolution: the belief that small, adaptive changes are capable of accumulation over time to produce entirely new species.” (Meyers & Noebels. *Understanding the Times*. P. 255)

The need for spontaneous generation is needed for this view.

“If Darwinian evolution is true, then God had nothing to do with the origin of life. Nature did not need His help to bring about the first life or all subsequent species of plants and animals living today. Therefore ‘God’ is nothing more than a concept that primitive man developed to try to understand the mysteries of life. Darwin’s theory implies that concepts of right and wrong are simply social constructs that have developed over time and are constantly changing to fit the evolutionary progress (?) of the human species. Morals are relative and situational.

2. Post-modernistic thought.

Is dealing another great blow to a Biblical Worldview. This thought pattern does not believe that faith and religion are true but are sociological myths to help deal with life. They also do not believe there is any source of eternal and absolute truth, thus they reject and Divine Creator and His control.

3. The New Spiritual Evolutionist

People like Deepak Chopra believe that humanity is continually progressing toward a high consciousness and that all people possess the potential to achieve divine unity with the cosmos on their own efforts.

4. Atheism, Other world religions

“There simply cannot be a creation without some kind of Spiritual Creator . . . In the world around us we can behold the obvious manifestations of the Divine plan of the Creator.” -- Dr. Wernher von Braun, Father of the American Space Program

"Atheism turns out to be too simple. If the whole universe has no meaning, we should never have found out that it has no meaning." -- C.S. Lewis

What Should Christians Believe?

Psalm 19:1...*The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of His hands.*

Psalm 24:1,2...*“The earth is the LORD’s, and the fulness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein. For he hath founded it upon the seas and established it upon the floods.”*

"The more I study nature, the more I stand amazed at the work of the Creator. Into his tiniest creatures, God has placed extraordinary properties that turn them into agents of destruction of dead matter." -- Louis Pasteur, French scientist, developer of the various vaccines and pasteurization.

"A bit of science distances one from God, but much science nears one to Him."-- Louis Pasteur.

"If evolution is the guiding force in human development, how is it that higher forms of life evolved with male and female sexes? If humans are the pinnacle of the evolutionary process, how is it that we have the disadvantage of requiring a member of the opposite sex to reproduce, when lower forms of life -- such as bacteria, viruses and protozoa -- are sexless and far more prolific? If they can reproduce by far simpler methods, why can't we? If evolution is true, what went wrong?"

("Society's Dramatic Shift" *Creation or Evolution: Does It Really Matter What You Believe?* a magazine of **The Good News**

What Size Is God?

“Nature is God's workshop. The sky is his resume. The universe is his calling card. You want to know who God is? See what he has done. You want to know his power? Take a look at his creation. Curious about his strength? Pay a visit to his home address: 1 Billion Starry Sky Avenue.

He is untainted by the atmosphere of sin, unbridled by the timeline of history, unhindered by the weariness of the body.

What controls you doesn't control him. What troubles you doesn't trouble him. What fatigues you doesn't fatigue him. Is an eagle disturbed by traffic? No, he rises above it. Is the whale perturbed by a hurricane? Of course not, he plunges beneath it. Is the lion flustered by the mouse standing directly in his way? No, he steps over it.

How much more is God able to soar above, plunge beneath, and step over the troubles of the earth”! (From *the Great House of God* by Max Lucado)

[The Institute for Creation Research \(icr.org\)https://www.icr.org/topics](https://www.icr.org/topics)

➤ Nature Reveals

1. God's Power
2. God's Presence
3. God's Protection
4. God's Provision
5. God's Wisdom

The Earth Was Uniquely Created

Earth Was Created for Life

Earth Was Created in a Wonderful Location

Earth's Core Was Created to Protect Life

Earth's Water Cycle Protects and Provides

The Global Flood Is the Key to the Past

Much Evidence Exists for a Worldwide Flood

Geological Evidence Indicates Rapid Formation

The Global Flood Explains the Ice Age

Fossils Reflect Life's Original Diversity

Fossils Show Rapid and Catastrophic Burial

Fossils Are Found at All Levels

Fossils Show Stasis and No Transitional Forms

Many Earth Clocks Indicate Recent Creation

Diamonds and Strata Have Too Much Carbon-14

Minerals Have Too Much Helium

The Sea Does Not Have Enough Minerals

“Creationism proves to be a much better explanation of man's origin, when one takes into account evidence of:

- Intelligent Design throughout the universe, the
- complexity and ingenuity of DNA, the
- fossil record showing no transitional forms but rather ‘kind begetting kind’, the
- extinction of species rather than new species evolving through natural selection or punctuated equilibrium,
- the law of biogenesis (the idea that living matter only arises from other living matter, and the
- 2nd law of Thermodynamics”. (p, 63. Noebels)
- Helpless infant

What ‘Christian view of origins’ to believe

a. Young age creationism...the idea that the earth was created more recently (6-10,000 years). This is the traditional “6-day creation model” from Genesis)

b. Progressive creationism – the idea that God created the cosmos and all life forms, in progressive stages over a long period of time.

c. Theistic evolution – the belief that God created the cosmos billions of years ago and then guided the process of biological evolution to produce the diversity of life seen today. (P. 271)

- Life only comes from pre-existing life.
- Random chance processes do not produce intelligible information.
- The immaterial world is real.
- Living organisms give the appearance of design the exquisite complexities and design in life...the watchmaker story)

Genesis 1:1,26...¹ In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.²⁶ Then God said, “Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness. (HCSB)

“In a very real sense, the book of Genesis is the most important book in the world, for it is the foundation upon which all the other sixty-five

books of God's written Word have been based. When Jesus Christ, after His resurrection, gave a key Bible study to His disciples on the way to Emmaus, He began with Genesis!

Luke 24:27... *“Beginning at Moses and all the prophets, He expounded unto them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself”.*

We would do well to follow His example. If we want to understand the New Testament, we first need to understand Genesis; the New Testament contains at least two hundred direct quotations or clear allusions to events described in Genesis—more than from any other book in the Old Testament”. <https://www.icr.org/books/defenders/1>

Jesus Christ is the real answer to the question of Biology...

John 1:1-3... ¹ *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.* ² *He was with God in the beginning.* ³ *Through Him all things were made; without Him nothing was made that has been made.* ⁴ *In Him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind.*

Colossians 1:16-20...¹⁶ *For in Christ all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through Him and for Him.* ¹⁷ *He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together.* ¹⁸ *And He is the head of the body, the church; He is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything He might have the supremacy.* ¹⁹ *For God was pleased to have all His fullness dwell in Him,* ²⁰ *and through Christ to reconcile to Himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through His blood, shed on the cross.*

The bottom line from a Biblical viewpoint is...

Have you received Jesus as “*the Way, the Truth, and the LIFE!*”
(John 14:6)

There is no **ABUNDANT LIFE**, no **ETERNAL LIFE** outside of Christ.

Additional Information for reading from
[Core Principles](#) | [The Institute for Creation Research \(icr.org\)](#)
<https://www.icr.org/tenets>

Principles of Scientific Creationism

- The physical universe of space, time, matter, and energy has not always existed but was supernaturally created by a transcendent personal Creator who alone has existed from eternity.
- The phenomenon of biological life did not develop by natural processes from inanimate systems but was specially and supernaturally created by the Creator.
- Each of the major kinds of plants and animals was created functionally complete from the beginning and did not evolve from some other kind of organism. Changes in basic kinds since their first creation are limited to “horizontal” changes (variations) within the kinds, or “downward” changes (e.g., harmful mutations, extinctions).
- The first human beings did not evolve from an animal ancestry but were specially created in fully human form from the start. Furthermore, the “spiritual” nature of man (self-image, moral consciousness, abstract reasoning, language, will, religious nature, etc.) is itself a supernaturally created entity distinct from mere biological life.
- The record of Earth history, as preserved in the earth's crust, especially in the rocks and fossil deposits, is primarily a record of catastrophic intensities of natural processes, operating largely within uniform natural laws, rather than one of gradualism and relatively uniform process rates. There is many scientific evidence for a relatively recent creation of the earth and the universe, in addition to strong scientific evidence that most of the earth's fossiliferous sedimentary rocks were formed in an even more recent global hydraulic cataclysm.

- Processes today operate primarily within fixed natural laws and relatively uniform process rates, but since these were themselves originally created and are daily maintained by their Creator, there is always the possibility of miraculous intervention in these laws or processes by their Creator. Evidence for such intervention should be scrutinized critically, however, because there must be clear and adequate reason for any such action on the part of the Creator.
- The universe and life have somehow been impaired since the completion of creation so that imperfections in structure, disease, aging, extinctions, and other such phenomena are the result of “negative” changes in properties and processes occurring in an originally perfect created order.
- Since the universe and its primary components were created perfect for their purposes in the beginning by a competent and volitional Creator, and since the Creator does remain active in this now-decaying creation, there do exist ultimate purposes and meanings in the universe. Teleological considerations, therefore, are appropriate in scientific studies whenever they are consistent with the actual data of observation. Furthermore, it is reasonable to assume that the creation presently awaits the consummation of the Creator's purpose.
- Although people are finite and scientific data concerning origins are always circumstantial and incomplete, the human mind (if open to possibility of creation) is able to explore the manifestations of that Creator rationally, scientifically, and teleologically.
- The Bible, consisting of the 39 canonical books of the Old Testament and the 27 canonical books of the New Testament, is the divinely inspired revelation of the Creator to man. Its unique, plenary, verbal inspiration guarantees that these writings, as originally and miraculously given, are infallible and completely authoritative on all matters with which they deal, free from error of any sort, scientific and historical as well as moral and theological.
- All things in the universe were created and made by God in the six literal days of the creation week described in Genesis 1:1–2:3, and confirmed in Exodus 20:8-11. The creation record is factual, historical, and perspicuous; thus, all theories of origins or development that involve evolution in any form are false. All things that now exist are sustained and ordered by God's providential care. However, a part of the spiritual creation, Satan and his angels, rebelled against God after the creation and are attempting to thwart His divine purposes in creation.
- The first human beings, Adam and Eve, were specially created by God, and all other men and women are their descendants. In Adam, humanity was instructed to exercise “dominion” over all other created organisms, and over the earth itself (an implicit commission for true science, technology, commerce, fine art, and education), but the temptation by Satan and the entrance of sin brought God's curse on that dominion and on mankind, culminating in death and separation from God as the natural and proper consequence.
- The biblical record of primeval Earth history in Genesis 1–11 is fully historical and perspicuous, including the creation and Fall of man, the Curse on the creation and its subjection to the bondage of decay, the promised Redeemer, the worldwide cataclysmic deluge in the days of Noah, the postdiluvian renewal of humanity's commission to subdue the earth (now augmented by the institution of human government), and the origin of nations and languages at the Tower of Babel.
- The alienation of man from his Creator because of sin can only be remedied by the Creator Himself, who became man in the

Principles of Biblical Creationism

- The Creator of the universe is a triune God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. There is only one eternal and transcendent God, the source of all being and meaning, and He exists in three Persons, each of whom participated in the work of creation.

person of the Lord Jesus Christ through miraculous conception and virgin birth. In Christ were indissolubly united perfect sinless humanity and full deity so that His substitutionary death is the only necessary and sufficient price of humanity's redemption. That the redemption was completely efficacious is assured by His bodily resurrection from the dead and ascension into heaven; the resurrection of Christ is thus the focal point of history, assuring the consummation of God's purposes in creation.

- The final restoration of creation's perfection is yet future, but individuals can immediately be restored to fellowship with their Creator on the basis of His redemptive work on their behalf, receiving forgiveness and eternal life solely through personal trust in the Lord Jesus Christ, accepting Him not only as estranged Creator but also as reconciling Redeemer and coming King. Those who reject Him, however, or who neglect to believe on Him thereby continue in their state of rebellion and must ultimately be consigned to the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels.
- The eventual accomplishment of God's eternal purposes in creation, with the removal of His curse and the restoration of all things to divine perfection, will take place at the personal bodily return to Earth of Jesus Christ to judge and purge sin and to establish His eternal kingdom.
- Each believer should participate in the "ministry of reconciliation" by seeking both to bring individuals back to God in Christ (the Great Commission) and to "subdue the earth" for God's glory (the Edenic-Noahic Commission). The three institutions established by the Creator for the implementation of His purposes in this world (home, government, church) should be honored and supported as such.