

Creation—Understood by Faith

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Genesis 1 reads:

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was formless and void, and darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was moving over the surface of the waters. Then God said, "Let there be light "; and there was light. God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light day, and the darkness He called night. And there was evening and there was morning, one day.

Then God said, "Let there be an expanse in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters." God made the expanse, and separated the waters which were below the expanse from the waters which were above the expanse; and it was so. God called the expanse heaven. And there was evening and there was morning, a second day.

Then God said, "Let the waters below the heavens be gathered into one place, and let the dry land appear"; and it was so. God called the dry land earth, and the gathering of the waters He called seas; and God saw that it was good. Then God said, "Let

the earth sprout vegetation: plants yielding seed, and fruit trees on the earth bearing fruit after their kind with seed in them”; and it was so. The earth brought forth vegetation, plants yielding seed after their kind, and trees bearing fruit with seed in them, after their kind; and God saw that it was good. There was evening and there was morning, a third day.

Then God said, ”Let there be lights in the expanse of the heavens to separate the day from the night, and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years; and let them be for lights in the expanse of the heavens to give light on the earth”; and it was so. God made the two great lights, the greater light to govern the day, and the lesser light to govern the night; He made the stars also. God placed them in the expanse of the heavens to give light on the earth, and to govern the day and the night, and to separate the light from the darkness; and God saw that it was good. There was evening and there was morning, a fourth day.

Then God said, ”Let the waters teem with swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth in the open expanse of the heavens.” God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, with which the waters swarmed after their kind, and every winged bird after its kind; and God saw that it was good. God blessed them, saying, ”Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth.” There was evening and there was morning, a fifth day.

Then God said, ”Let the earth bring forth living creatures after their kind: cattle and creeping things and beasts of the earth after their kind; and it was so. God made the beasts of the earth after their kind, and the cattle after their kind, and everything

that creeps on the ground after its kind; and God saw that it was good.

Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over the cattle and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. God blessed them; and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth, and subdue it; and rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over every living thing that moves on the earth." Then God said, "Behold, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is on the surface of all the earth, and every tree which has fruit yielding seed; it shall be food for you; and to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the sky and to every thing that moves on the earth which has life, I have given every green plant for food"; and it was so. God saw all that He had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

If you choose to believe this, then you believe what the Bible says. You are a Christian, most likely, because this is what the Bible tells us is true. It comes down to: Are you going to believe the Word of God or not? Does it really matter if you believe in creation or not? Does it matter how you live your life? Does it matter about the gospel, salvation, and Jesus, or not? Is creation that big of a deal or not?

I would like you to turn in your Bibles to Hebrews 11. We are taking a break from our exposition of Luke to spend a few months in Hebrews 11. Our goal is to understand faith, its definition, importance, and purpose in our lives. Last week we learned that faith is usually discussed in two categories. One category is the faith we need to be saved—saving faith. The other kind of category, a general category, is faith that we live by, or sanc-

tifying faith. The author of Hebrews is talking about sanctifying faith—the faith we are to live by. [At] the end of [Hebrews] 10, having discussed that we need to live by faith and not shrink back in unbelief, he then launches into chapter 11, which is rather a lengthy discussion about faith, illustrating faith, defining faith, showing why faith is so important. I think we need this today because we tend to be brainwashed by the world that somehow faith is an odd thing, [an] ignorant, archaic [thing] for cavemen, certainly not for people in the modern age.

But this is what we read in Hebrews 11:1–3. The author of Hebrews writes:

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. For by it the men of old gained approval. By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things which are visible.

Faith, we learned last week, is a trust, a reliance, a conviction, to grasp something mentally from the promise and statements of the Word of God. It is not merely a mental assent to facts. It is that, but it is much more than that because it also drives the will to conform one's life in accordance with that faith. The author of Hebrews defines it as “the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen” [Hebrews 11:1]. We showed last week that everyone lives by faith, both Christian and non-Christian alike. The difference is [that] Christians admit it and they live by faith in the Word of God. Non-Christians often deny it and yet they do anyway. Some have faith in their false religion, false god, or sacred writings, just as Christians do in the Bible and the real God, but either way, everyone lives by faith. Others, even those who claim to only live by their five senses—what they can feel, taste, touch, smell, and see—still live by faith, and not only faith in what *could* be seen, but what they have never seen.

We've learned here in our text that faith is something [that] caused the patriarchs, the judges, the kings, [and] the prophets to gain approval with

God [see Hebrews 11:2]. If you're going to be approved before God, you must live by faith. This is not an option. Faith is not, "There are some Christians who live by faith, and there are some Christians who don't." No, there are the Christians who live by faith, and there are the non-Christians. Christians live by faith. We may not live very strongly by faith, but, by definition, a Christian is one who lives by faith, and God is pleased by this.

That is why this morning I want you to grasp three aspects of faith related to creation and the fact that God Himself is our Creator because this is what it means to be a Christian as defined by the author of Hebrews. The first thing is: Why faith believes in divine creation. We just read Genesis 1 and you saw up on the screen some various pictures of things that are pretty staggering [because] God spoke these things into existence just as the Bible claims. He did it in six literal, consecutive, twenty-four hour periods of time. This is attested to hundreds, if not thousands, of times in the Bible.

Our text reads: "By faith," [Hebrews 11:]3, "we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God." Remember, [the author of Hebrews] has just stated that "men of old gained approval" by faith [Hebrews 11:2]. Now he continues that thought. They gained approval by faith, and the first thing he mentions [in regards to faith] is the first thing [mentioned] in the Bible. Interesting. We're going to see, as [the author] goes down through the chapter, not only does he start with the first thing in the Bible, he then goes through people in chronological sequence. He is basically starting, "OK, let's talk about faith. Let's start [at] Genesis 1 and move from Genesis 1 and pick all these examples to learn from."

He continues the thought, saying that "we understand," [which] means [that] he's talking about all of us who are believers. This is a Christian thing: "We understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God." The believer doesn't get to pick and choose what parts of the Bible he wants to believe. He doesn't get to say, "Well, that Genesis 1–3 isn't good. I'll start believing in chapter 4. Oh, wait, men lived too long. Wait, let's postpone it a little bit. Ah, the Flood. Maybe [I'll start believing in] Genesis 10. Well, the whole Abraham thing is just a little bit [hard to believe]. Let's move it

on down the line a little bit. [How about] the Exodus and all those miracles? Let's get past that and maybe start in Exodus 14." Are you going to believe the Bible or not? Are you going to believe God or not? That's the issue here.

The phrase "the worlds were prepared" literally means the ages were put, or fashioned, into perfect order. The New American Standard Bible says "worlds," the English Standard Version and the [New International Version] have "universe," [which is a better translation]. But literally in the Greek [it is] "ages." Usually it is translated "forever" or "forever and ever." Translators have sometimes translated it "world" to describe what is created in time, as in Hebrews 1:2, where it speaks of Christ as creating "the world," or 2 Corinthians 4:4, where it speaks of Satan as the "god of this world." It is the same word used there, [so the more literal translation] is really "the god of this age." It means that Christ created everything within the ages, everything within time, which, of course, is more than just the world.

The word "world" isn't a very good translation of this word "ages." Really the "universe"—everything contained within time—[is a better translation]. This is a reference to the first word of the Bible. The first word in the English Bible is "in"—"in the beginning"—but the first word in the Hebrew Bible is all one word [that means] "in the beginning." It is interesting how the author of Hebrews, once he states the importance of faith and gives a little definition of [it], he says that men gained approval by it [see Hebrews 11:2]. [He then says], "Let's start at the beginning in the first word of the Bible—"in the beginning"—when ages began."

I think the English Standard Version does the best job translating [Hebrews 11:]3: "By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God." The word "prepared," as the New American Standard Bible has it, means "to frame, to perfectly fit into place," which tells us that God, when He started time, created everything to perfectly fit together to accomplish His engineered purpose so that He would get the maximum glory from His creation. This is stated so many times in the Bible that it hardly

even needs mentioning. [However], I'll just read a few texts. This is just a dusting of texts.

Exodus 20:11: "For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea and all that is in them."

Nehemiah 9:6:

You alone are the LORD. You have made the heavens, The heaven of heavens with all their host, The earth and all that is on it, The seas and all that is in them. You give life to all of them And the heavenly host bows down before You.

Acts 17:24: "The God who made the world and all things in it, since He is Lord of heaven and earth, does not dwell in temples made with hands." Revelation 4:11: "Worthy are You, our Lord and our God, to receive glory and honor and power," why? "for You created all things, and because of Your will they existed, and were created." This is a very small sampling of texts that run from Genesis 1:1 all the way through the last chapter in Revelation. The Bible is explicit that God is the Creator and it is one of the major reasons we worship and praise Him.

You say, "Well, OK, that's good, [but] how do we know this?" [We know this] by faith. Faith is how we grasp these things. Faith sees and experiences what the five senses cannot. Granted, as soon as you talk about faith, [you need to] get ready for the rocks [to be thrown]. Some [people] accuse Christians of circular reasoning. [They say], "You guys commit circular reasoning. You say, 'We believe in the Bible, and the Bible says this, therefore it is true.' You use the Bible to prove the Bible. That's circular reasoning." But be assured and know this: *Everyone* uses circular reasoning, even those who deny it.

See if you can follow this. It's a little bit technical, but not too bad. Wayne Grudem, in his *Systematic Theology*, points out:

All arguments for an absolute authority must ultimately appeal to that authority for proof: otherwise the authority would not

be an absolute or highest priority. This problem is not unique to the Christian who is arguing for the authority of the Bible. Everyone either implicitly or explicitly uses some kind of circular argument when defending his or her ultimate authority for belief.

Although these circular arguments are not always made explicit and are sometimes hidden beneath lengthy discussions or are simply assumed without proof, arguments for an ultimate authority in their most basic form take on a similar circular appeal to that authority itself, as some of the following examples show.

Now Grudem is going to give us some examples of ways [people who deny that they use circular reasoning actually do use circular reasoning].

“My reason is my ultimate authority because it seems reasonable to me to make it so.”

“Logical consistency is my ultimate authority because it is logical to make it so.”

“The findings of human sensory experiences are the ultimate authority for discovering what is real and what is not, because our human senses have never discovered anything else: thus, human sense experience tells me that my principle is true.”

“I know there can be no ultimate authority because I do not know of any such ultimate authority.”¹

What Grudem is saying is that everyone has an ultimate authority [to which] they turn, and you know what? When it gets down to it, it's usually themselves. It's what they choose to believe. They want to believe this,

¹Wayne Grudem, *Systematic Theology: An Introduction to Biblical Doctrine* (Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1995), 78–79.

[and] therefore they become their own ultimate authority. They usually appeal to their own reason, their own knowledge of their own examination of the physical evidence, and arrive at whatever conclusion they want to arrive at by faith.

The question is: Is this wise? Or, maybe more important, is this scientific? Is this intellectually credible? We might [ask], “Why, if God did create the heavens and the earth and all they contain as the Bible says, are [there] so many people who don’t believe it?” That is a good question. Paul tells us why in Romans 1:18–23, 25. Listen to what he says. Listen to me read this and [tell] yourself, “OK, what I’m listening for is why people don’t want to believe God.” Here’s what Paul says.

For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, because that which is known about God is evident within them; for God made it evident to them. For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood through what has been made, so that they are without excuse. For even though they knew God, they did not honor Him as God or give thanks, but they became futile in their speculations, and their foolish heart was darkened. Professing to be wise, they became fools, and exchanged the glory of the incorruptible God for an image in the form of corruptible man and of birds and four-footed animals and crawling creatures. . . . For they exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen.

That is why there is atheism, humanism, existentialism, and every other false religion, sect, and cult. Men, fearing judgment, do not want to submit to God, so even though God has made Himself evident to them as the God

of creation, they have suppressed that truth in unrighteousness. On Judgment Day, no one will be standing before Christ, thinking, “I didn’t know there was a God! I didn’t know! I thought evolution was true. That’s how I was raised. I learned that in school. I just didn’t know!” They’re all going to be [thinking], “Yes, yes, I did know that. I’ve always known that. I just didn’t want to believe it because I knew there was a God, but I wasn’t living for God. I knew He was a just God, and I feared judgment. So, in order to sin with an easy conscience, I just denied He existed or invented my own way, my own religion, my own method.”

So let us be out with it as Christians. Let’s just lay our cards on the table: We believe there is a God and we believe the Bible is His Word. It is our ultimate authority for truth and we make no bones about it. A.W. Pink writes: “The origin of the universe presents a problem which neither science nor philosophy can solve, as is evident from their conflicting and ridiculous attempts; but that difficulty vanishes entirely before faith.”²

You see, the Bible teaches that knowledge follows faith. [If] you talk to somebody in the world, they think totally different[ly]. They have it totally backward, [which] you would expect from people who reject the truth. [They say], “You first convince me that the Bible is true, that God exists, that everything in His Word is accurate. [Then], once I have all of my questions answered to my own satisfaction and I come to believe that these things are true, I will place my faith in them.” That is how the world reasons. Maybe that’s how you reason, but that is not Christian faith.

Right after a whole bunch of the “disciples” who were followers of Jesus quit following Him, Jesus said [to His apostles], “Are you going to leave, too?” [see John 6:67]. This is how they answered: “We have believed and have come to know that You are the Holy One of God” [John 6:69]. Faith is the engine; knowledge is the caboose.

²A.W. Pink, *An Exposition of Hebrews*, Chapter 56, “The Excellency of Faith,” Hebrews 11:1–3. Available at: http://www.pbministries.org/books/pink/Hebrews/hebrews_056.htm.

Paul, in 1 Timothy 4:3, is talking about demonic doctrines of people who tell us we should abstain, “Don’t eat this, don’t drink this. Be careful. Stay away. You’ll be more godly if you stay away from fast food or whatever.” He says [that] these [are] things “God has created to be gratefully shared in by those who believe and,” as a consequence, “know the truth.” In 1 John 5:13, John writes: “These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.” First comes faith, then comes knowledge. This is why those who do not believe in God or the Scriptures are described in the Bible as living in darkness, that is, living in ignorance. Light [is] the synonym for truth; darkness [is] the synonym for ignorance. The light of the truth is only given to those who believe. Faith is the light switch that turns on the knowledge.

When you believe, the light of the truth comes on in your life and you become a child of light [see Ephesians 5:8]. The sensualist, the person who lives supposedly by [his] senses, may scoff, “You Christians live by faith,” but [he, too], live[s] by faith. Yet the things [he has] faith in are unreliable, untrustworthy, [and] oftentimes guessed at. [He] may say, “If you live by faith, you have just committed intellectual suicide. You Christians let your brains fall out. You just blindly believe the Bible.” Yet Christians don’t have a blind faith. They have an intelligent, rational, reasonable faith based on facts.

Pink says:

Faith is not a blind reliance upon the Word of God, but an intelligent persuasion of its veracity, wisdom, and beauty. So far from Christians being the credulous fools the world deems them, they are the wisest of the earth’s inhabitants. The “fools” are they who are “slow of heart to believe.”³

If you’re a college student and you have some guy up there with three PhDs (the abbreviation for “post hole digger”), and he is making dogmatic

³Ibid.

statements that evolution is true, the Bible is false, that Christians are this, and just ridiculing [your beliefs], I just want you to know [that] a baby believer is wiser than that man. As soon as you come to saving faith in Jesus Christ, God opens the world of knowledge to you so you begin to see things [accurately] for the first time. Jesus stated it this way in John 3:19–20:

This is the judgment, that the Light has come into the world, and men loved the darkness rather than the Light, for their deeds were evil. For everyone who does evil hates the Light, and does not come to the Light for fear that his deeds will be exposed.

Do you get that? Though truth comes in, men, because they love their sin, don't want to come to the truth, because the truth condemns their lives as being sinful, wicked, [and] evil. They won't come [to the Light]. This is why evolution, false religions, [and] atheism exist: Men love darkness rather than Light. They know God exists because God put the knowledge in them. They know God exists because it can be seen through creation what has been made. That's why they are "without excuse," every one of them [see Romans 1:20]. They don't want to think of judgment. They want to sin with an easy conscience, so they deny God, or make their own religion, which gives them permission to do what they want to do. [The] bottom line is: they become their own god. They worship and serve "the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen" [Romans 1:25]. They ignore, twist, and deny the facts.

You see this in so many places. Look at the field of archeology, for instance. How many hoaxes have been created and fabricated to gain government grants, fame, and academic respect? Time will fail us if we talk about [the] Piltdown man, [the] Peking man, the famous Lucy skeleton, and [the] "missing link." These things were assembled from different places, doctored up with iodine, and found to be total hoaxes. There are no missing

links. None. But you know what? A lot of those things still appear in books today in schools. It is a desperation to hang on to a lie. There are no evolutionary forms. There is no evolution.

There is variation in species. (It would be fun to go into this [further].) You can take a dog that was created during the first day [of Creation] and breed it so you [produce dogs with] long hair, short hair, long tails, short tails, long legs, short legs, wrinkly skin, and smooth skin. Dogs have huge variation, but in the end they're all dogs. They never turn into cats or giraffes. There is variation within the species and by breeding them you actually remove information from them. They never receive more DNA information, always less. A species has *never* changed into another. It has never done everything the other one did before and something else better, which evolution demands. No new information is added to the DNA. They know this as an absolute fact. It totally wastes the whole theory of evolution. It is irrefutable, and yet, what is taught [in schools today]? Evolution. In fact, there are mechanisms within the cell structure itself that make evolution impossible.

Michael Denton, who is not even a believer, he's just a guy who studied cells, discovered this, and wrote a book [entitled] *Evolution: A Theory in Crisis*. Oh, man, [the scientific community] crucified him [for his writings]. [They said], "He's become a Christian!"

He [responded], "No, I was just studying cells."

You see, many so-called scientists have such a strong faith in evolution [that] they are unwilling to consider that their religion might be wrong. They disregard any evidence that undermines their faith-based religion as pseudo-science, faith, religion, to be discarded, but they get to keep all the things that they want to support their lie. But remember this: The truth never fears examination, but lies always do. The truth says, "Examine all you want." Lies say, "Don't you bring that up!" because lies do not stand up under examination.

Be assured, evolutionists need more faith than Christians do, which brings us to our second point: Why faith in creation is a rational faith.

Notice our text says: “We understand that the worlds,” or universe, “were prepared,” or created, “by the word of God” [Hebrews 11:3]. The word “understand” here refers to “a rational faith, a faith that understands, perceives, considers, ponders, comprehends, gains insight into.” The Christian believes the Bible by faith, and faith is a real knowing, a reckoning, an understanding of the truth. In God’s economy, we believe that we might know the truth. Scientific evidence supports divine creation. It does not prove it, nor is it the reason why we believe in creation.

The Bible is true even if the world of scientists says it’s not. “Let God be found true, though every man be found a liar” [Romans 3:4]. We don’t prove the Bible by evidences. The Bible is true because God says so. We don’t believe the Bible because we, in our fallen understanding, have weighed the evidences perfectly and therefore know the Bible is true. The Bible is self-attesting—it gives witness to its own self. It is its own best witness. Christians believe this by faith.

I am going to run through some things that I am sure [are] going to encourage many of you. You’re going to leave today [humming happily]. You’re just going to love this. But I want you to listen to me very carefully right now. I don’t want you to take the things I’m going to tell you and run out there and just beat up on unbelievers. No. You need to share the gospel with those unbelievers. Don’t think that you can convince people to believe in God and the Bible by first proving God exists and the Bible is true so that they can believe and become Christians. No. The gospel must be proclaimed and people must believe the gospel so that they can know those things. Faith in the gospel first, then knowledge second, not the other way around. Don’t play their game.

It is good to know how to answer people. It is good to have reasoned, knowledgeable answers to those who make false statements and to be able to refute those people in a kind and Spirit-filled way, but if you want to lead them to Christ, they need the gospel. It is OK to talk about these things to gain dialogue, but if you want them to come to Christ, if you want to change their worldview, they need the gospel. The gospel changes people. After

they get saved, they come to understand the truth—in that order. The gospel is for changing; scientific arguments and facts are for the encouragement of Christians. So, I am going to encourage you right now.

B.F. Westcott, in his commentary on Hebrews, says: “The belief in creation—the belief in a divine will manifested in the existence of the world—is the necessary foundation for the life of faith in all its manifestations.”⁴ It comes down to this: Are you going to believe the invisible God and His Word by faith [or not]?

We [may] say, “OK, we believe this by faith, but we need to go look at the evidence,” and that’s fine, but just know that evidences don’t make us believe the Bible. The evidence, since we’re fallen, may be interpreted different ways by fallen men, and often is, and is always changing.

Let’s just consider a little bit about these people who throw stones at you, and say, “Oh, you believe by faith. Well, I believe in science, and I believe in my five senses. I believe what I can taste and touch.”

Just smile at them, [and say], “So, you’re a scientist. Now, tell me, what is science anyway? How do you define science? Let’s look up in any dictionary you want.” Science always has two things that it involves: one, measurability, and two, repeatability. To do science, you need to be able to measure something, observe [it], and repeat the experiment so that you know your data is accurate. Any dictionary, any science book, tells you this. One example: The *Cambridge Dictionary* defines science as “the systematic study of the structure and behavior of the physical world, especially by watching, measuring, and doing experiments.”⁵ If you look up faith in the dictionary, it will tell you that faith is “belief that does not rest on logical proof or material evidence.”⁶ It’s almost like the dictionary is telling us that faith

⁴B.F. Westcott, *Epistle to the Hebrews* (Grand Rapids, MI: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co, 1950), 352.

⁵*Cambridge Advanced Learner’s Dictionary*, s.v. “science,” <http://dictionary.cambridge.org/define.asp?key=70394&dict=CALD&topic=subjects-and-disciplines> (accessed January 28, 2010).

⁶*Dictionary.com*, s.v. “faith,” <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/faith> (accessed January 29, 2010).

is kind of an “assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen” [Hebrews 11:1]. Christians are required to believe by faith that God created everything and the world mocks our faith in the Bible and God. So what about evolution?

It’s always good to [say to evolutionists], “OK, you’re saying I live by faith. Well, let’s talk about you and your evolutionary beliefs. Tell me, when did evolution actually start?”

“Well, we don’t know, but we believe it did, by faith.”

“Where did matter come from?”

“We don’t know, but since it’s here, we believe it exists, and came into being somehow, but not from God.”

“How do you know this?”

“By faith.” Some say, “Oh, but, yes, I remember now, there was a Big Bang. That’s it.”

“So, did anyone see the Big Bang occur?”

“Well, no.”

“Did anybody measure the Big Bang when it was occurring?”

“Uh, no.”

“Could anybody repeat the Big Bang?”

“Mmm, no.”

“So, where did all of that matter come from, that lead to this Big Bang?”

“Well, we don’t know, but we believe it happened,” [i.e.,] faith.

Hear me: The very foundation of what evolutionists believe is based upon “I don’t know,” and you’re telling me that’s science? No, no, no. Nope, that’s not science. That’s religion. That is blind faith into a leap of intellectual suicide. It’s all arrived at by faith without observing or measuring anything. It sounds like religion because that’s exactly what it is. Men, not wanting to submit to their Creator, “suppress the truth in unrighteousness” [Romans 1:18], and they make themselves god and invent this theory and cling to it with all their might.

You say [to an evolutionist], “OK, so, tell me. What are the origins of matter?”

“We don’t know,” and yet they [base] all their [belief] system on what they don’t know, which isn’t measured, and which can’t be repeated. Their entire system is based upon non-science. People, that requires serious faith—a lot more than it does to just believe that there is a God, He revealed Himself in the Bible, and He tells us what happened. At least we’ve got a Bible.

But let’s just grant the evolutionists, for the sake of fun, [the idea] that matter has always existed, which, of course, scientifically can’t be true because it denies the scientific law of cause and effect. You say, “What’s that?” A scientific law, first of all, is something [that] has never, in any circumstance, ever, been proven [un]true. If something—some theory or something—[is discovered and] is ever not true in any situation, it can’t be a scientific law. This is like a failsafe, always a fact, thing. The [scientific] law of cause and effect says [that] for every effect there is a cause. That’s pretty easy, isn’t it?

You see the music stand there? If you could go back in time-lapse photography and see it moved around, in the closet, moved around, moved around, [then it is back at] the store [from which it was purchased], [then it is at] the manufacturing plant, [then] the place where they made the steel, and finally [it] gets to the place where the ore [from which the steel was made] is in the ground. OK, how did [that ore] get there? It got there some[how]. Evolution says [that] if you take nothing, everything comes out of it. Think about that. There is nothing, no cause, and from no cause comes all the effects of the universe.

Christians say God is the ultimate cause, who has always existed, and He spoke the universe into existence. Everything doesn’t come from nothing. If something exists now, then something has always existed that caused everything else, if you go back far enough, to exist, and we know that to be God. [Those who believe in evolution] don’t know. They don’t want it to be God.

Let’s consider the Big Bang theory on its own merits, ignoring the scientific law of cause and effect, and pretending that matter has always existed.

Now we have a huge ball of matter floating out in the vacuum of space. That ball of matter is somehow going to explode—we won't talk about how that happens, but we'll just say that it does *by faith*.

Let me just explain a little bit to you, [in case] you don't understand physics and balls of matter. If you were to go to the moon, the moon is much smaller than the earth—about 1/81 the size of the earth. If you were to go and stand on the moon, you would discover [that] the gravity there is one-sixth that of the earth because the mass [of the moon] is that much smaller [than that of the earth]. So, the reverse is true. [Scientists have] gone to the moon and measured and affirmed this both on earth and the moon. [So we know that] if you were to get a larger mass, you would get more gravity; a smaller mass, less.

So, consider how large a mass of material it would take to explode and create the entire universe. That is a big dirt clod. That is huge. Imagine how strong the gravity would be if you had a ball of mass that big. Imagine the gravity. You know [that] the larger [mass] you get, the more gravity, [so] pretty soon [that mass] would just be pulling in on itself so that it *couldn't* explode. Science tells this to be true. [Scientific] laws tell us this could be true. But, the evolutionist has to believe that these scientific laws, which are never, ever, proven to be false, don't apply in this instance, by faith.

Scientists were so excited when the Hubble Telescope was being built. Do you know why? [It is] because they believe in the Big Bang. They believe there was this big expansion going on, that right now the universe is expanding like just an explosion in this huge vacuum of space, like a big ball of matter just expanding. They thought, "When we get this Hubble telescope out there, we're going to be able to orbit that thing around the earth and we're going to be able to see past our galaxy, and past other stars and other galaxies, and we're going to be able to see to the black nothingness beyond the rim of the Big Bang explosion. Then, once we discover what stars are on the edge of the explosive circle, we can then extrapolate backwards by using the Doppler effect and other things, until we can get to the

place where we can find out how long it's been expanding, and then we can determine the size of the universe. It's going to be great."

They put the Hubble up there, and they were taking lots of pictures, and they were just blown away. They were seeing all these things they never knew existed. Then they'd find one spot that was particularly dark and black in between galaxies and stars, and they'd take this very black spot and they were able to focus the Hubble telescope on that little tiny black spot, and they'd take a picture of that little tiny spot for a long time, and then expand it and what did they find? [Did they find] a few stars? No. A couple galaxies? No. A handful of galaxies? [They found] hundreds of thousands of galaxies in that tiny little spot that they thought was going to be beyond the rim of what they could see. You saw a picture of it—I had it up there [on the screen], where it said, "and the stars also," and there was that picture. Those aren't stars, they're entire galaxies.

Then [the scientists were thinking], "Oh, no, what does this mean? This totally destroyed our Bang!" You just need to understand, you need to grasp how huge the universe is. It's so huge. I think the closest star is something like 14 times 25 million miles away—Alpha Centauri. Think about that. (I won't get into light years because that's a whole [different] thing.) There's one star they found in our little galaxy—Betelgeuse—[that] is *27 million times* larger than our little pusillanimous sun. This is how big that is: If you were to get gasoline every 25 million miles, you'd have to have 43 times 25 million-mile journeys to get around the circumference of that one star. That is just one star. That's not the distance in between that star to other stars, that's not the distance between our galaxy and another galaxy [or] those other galaxies we can see easier than we can see the black spot hundreds of thousands beyond what we can see. It's huge. You're trying to tell me that all of that matter was in one spot? Hah! And that it blew up? Oh, come on, get out of the science fiction. There's only one thing that explains it. Evolution can't explain it. The Big Bang doesn't explain it. Nothing explains it but God.

But let's just believe in everything from nothing for a moment. The scientific laws that destroy evolutionary theory, let's just set them aside and pretend they didn't apply in this instance. Let's grant evolutionists a universe already expanded with stars and planets all in place, and then what? Who has witnessed and measured evolution taking place? Uh, no one. Who can repeat evolution? Mmm, nobody. Who can verify the claims that non-living matter can produce living matter? Uh, no one. Who says that spontaneous generation actually happens, and has witnessed that, and measured that? No one. Who can show from fossils dug up on the earth that there are transitional forms that one species turned into another? We haven't found one yet. We haven't found [even] *one* yet, and we never will. Who has ever observed one animal changing into a different species? No one. Evolutionists, what is so scientific about your theory, your faith, your religion? Nothing. It is a lie. It is a big lie. When you examine it, it explodes in a big bang. Evolution is not science fiction, it is fantasy fiction, based on inflammation of the wishbone.

But what about creation? Is creation scientific? No. By faith we believe these things. You see, when God created the universe, He committed a *supranatural* act. He went beyond the laws He would create to govern His creation and did it supernaturally. We don't have any instruments to even measure a supernatural act, even if we were back there, even if we were alive, and even if we were ready to do it. But we weren't back there, we didn't observe it, we didn't measure it, and we can't repeat it. Therefore, even creation lies outside of science.

This doesn't mean that because creation is not a scientific issue that we can't observe what has been created and learn about the creation, but we can't learn about the *act* of creation. We can't say, "This is how God did His supernatural act." It is beyond science. We're just told God spoke it into existence. So, both evolution and creation are not scientific. Both are founded upon faith. Creation is based on faith in the Word of God and evolution is based on the desperate hopes of men who don't want to be accountable to

their Creator, and so they “suppress the truth in unrighteousness” [Romans 1:18].

Let me just give you a few facts that are hidden from you by the “scientific community” because they don’t want you to know these things. Evolutionists don’t want you to know that all the hypotheses of Darwin in his [*On the*] *Origin of Species* have all [been] found to be false. Yet they still appear in all the books today. Interesting. Hmm. Nowhere on earth does the geologic column, which appears in textbooks, appear on earth that way. Nowhere. It is artist’s fiction and yet it is still in all the books. Interesting. It is a fake, but there it is.

Fossils argue for creation and the worldwide Flood. You need a worldwide flood to explain why there are fossilized clams on the top of Mount Everest. Hello! How did those clams get up there? They’re very slow walkers. You see in a book “How a fossil is formed.” You have some fish that is swimming along, and all of a sudden, ack! [it has a] heart attack and it sinks to the bottom [of a body of water]. There, over the course of time, sediments cover it up, and eventually, after millions of years, it turns into a fossil. No, it never has happened that way. They know it doesn’t happen that way, though it appears in all our books that way—the books they teach you in college, high school, and junior high. It never happens that way. In order to have a fossil, you need to have the fish crushed under huge volumes of sediment and water pressure. It’s the only way. If a fish falls to the bottom [of a body of water], scavengers and bacteria eat it. They know that. Fossils only happen under great cataclysms, where water moves huge amounts of sediment that later petrifies and turns into rock.

They don’t want you to know these things. They don’t want to tell you about poly-strata fossils. You think, “What’s that?” See? You don’t know [because they don’t want you to know]. We should all know this. “So, what do you mean by that?” You know [how] when you are driving along on the road and they’ve cut through the hillside and you see all those layers in the hillside where they’ve cut through it? Those [layers] are called strata—different layers of rock. Evolution says [that] when a fossil happens—the

fish dies, it is covered up with sediment—later on other layers and layers [form over it], and over millions and billions of years, all these strata build up. But what would it tell us if we ever found a fossil that actually existed vertically through many layers of sediment? [Well], GREFCO, a mineral exploration company discovered an eighty-foot whale fossil near Lompoc, California, buried on its tail, going through many, many layers of strata. Do you think that whale stood on its tail for millions of years while the sediment slowly built up around it so that eventually it could petrify and turn into a fossil? I mean, come on! What that tells us is that fossils happen all at once in a great cataclysm.

Scientists don't want to tell you about the fossilized footprints in the Paluxy River in Texas, where human and dinosaur footprints are fossilized, found in the riverbed, next to each other, and in one instance, a human footprint was on top of the dinosaur footprint. Some men discovered this at this evolution conference, [and] were so freaked that the world was going to find out the truth, they came with a jackhammer and jackhammered it out, but not before people took pictures.

They don't want you to know [about] geo-chronometers—"geo" meaning "earth," "chronometer" meaning "clock"—earth time clocks, [which] are measurable, repeatable phenomena, that scientists can [use to] measure and repeat [things such as] the magnetic decay of the earth. [With a geo-chronometer, they can say that the decay] happens at this rate, [and] therefore we can extrapolate backward or go forward [from that point]. [There is also a] population clock [that says] there [are] this many people in the world, [and] we can go backward or we can [go] forward [from that point of reference]. There are certain sediments in the bottom of the ocean, [and] we can go backward [or] forward [from their point of reference using a geo-chronometer]. There's this much dust on the moon [and] we can go backward [or] forward [from that point of reference]. Almost all of [the geo-chronometers] argue for a very young age of the earth—under 10,000 years old. That's why they don't appear in science books, though there are nearly ninety of them.

[Evolutionists] don't want you to consider where gasoline comes from. They just want you to use it—lots of it. You go up to the gas pump, you stick that thing in your car, you pull the lever. What are you putting in your car? Pre-Flood dinosaurs and plants is what you're putting in there. You say, "What do you mean?" Well, what is crude oil? Did you ever wonder where crude oil comes from? It comes from plants, mostly, and some animals thrown in there for good measure. I just Googled this. (I love the Web for this reason.) Where does crude oil come from? Here's an average answer: "The generally accepted origin of crude oil is from plant life up to 3 billion years ago, but predominantly from 100 to 600 million years ago."⁷

So, very good. How did all those animals and plants get buried under the ground? Think about how long we've been using cars to drive around on this planet. Think about all the crude oil that we use, not only for gasoline, but for everything that comes from crude oil—all petroleum products, ever since they were discovered. Think about how much plant matter that is. A lot of times they have to dig way, way down through all this sedimentary rock, [which] is rock that is laid down by a water cataclysm. You look at coal [and] it's the same way. There are gigantic pockets of coal way bigger than all of Burbank buried under the ground. Where does coal come from? Plants. How much plant material does it [take] to make all that coal? Well, to make one cubic foot of coal, it takes ten cubic feet of vegetation, and we have miles of coal under the ground. Now, that is a big yard dump, there. How did all those plants get all crushed together and put under there with all that sediment laid down by water? Dude, it's like there was a flood over the whole earth!

It's just ... gah. [Evolutionists] don't have the answers. I don't care how dogmatic[ally] they say [what they believe]. You who are in school, ask them, "Where does all that vegetation come from? I want to know how it all got under the earth so far. Did all the plants say, 'OK, here's the Grand

⁷Usenet FAQs, s.v. "fuel chemistry,"

<http://www.faqs.org/faqs/sci/chem-faq/part6/section-1.html> (accessed January 28, 2010).

Canyon, let's jump in and bury ourselves with a flood'?" But that's what happened. That's where oil comes from, it's where coal comes from, from before Noah, as a consequence of the Flood.

When you go to the North or South Pole and you go onto the bottom of the ocean, what do you find under there? [You find] tropical forests, petrified. I [have] a great article that when I get to Genesis and I preach through Genesis I'll read it. It's a wonder. Scientists have discovered tropical forests under the South Pole. The average temperature was probably eighty degrees.

[You might ask], "How did all those tropical forests get under there?"

[They would answer], "Well, before the meteorite hit the earth."

"What meteorite?"

"Well, we don't know."

"Where's the crater?"

"We can't find one." ([That's because] there isn't one.) "But we believe it must have happened because there must have been a shift so that all that plant matter could have gotten shifted to the polar regions."

"OK, then what about all the plant matter that's buried under the ground in the non-polar regions that we use to run our cars with?"

"Well, let's not talk about that."

"By faith we understand the universe was created by the word of God" [see Hebrews 11:1]. By faith, evolutionists believe evolution, a lot of times without any idea of how things got here. They just believe it even though they don't have any answers. It is desperate.

Third: Why faith believes God spoke all things into being from nothing. Look at our text again—Hebrews 11:3. "By faith we understand that the worlds," or, better, universe, "were prepared," created, "by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things which are visible." Christians believe God spoke everything into being out of nothing. He is the first cause of all things. The big Latin phrase that you use to describe God creating everything out of nothing, when it says in Genesis 1:2 that "the earth was formless and void," is the [phrase] *ex nihilo*, [which means]

“out of nothing.” He created everything out of nothing. That’s what we believe. And you know what? That’s what the Bible attests to.

Isaiah [40]:25–26 [says]:

”To whom then will you liken Me That I would be his equal?” says the Holy One. Lift up your eyes on high And see who has created these stars, The One who leads forth their host by number, He calls them all by name; Because of the greatness of His might and the strength of His power, Not one of them is missing.

Psalms 33:6 [says]: “By the word of the LORD the heavens were made, And by the breath of His mouth all their host.” Romans 4:17 speaks of God as He “who gives life to the dead and calls into being that which does not exist.” If you are a Christian, by faith you understand [that] the universe was created by the Word of God and that the things [that] are seen are made out of things [that] are invisible.

Many who profess to be Christians don’t believe in Creation. They say, “Well, we don’t believe in Creation. [We’re] Christian[s], but [we] don’t believe in Creation.” But a lot of times they don’t stop, one, to consider evolution on its own merits and to see how ridiculous it is; and two, they don’t consider the ramifications of saying, “I don’t believe in Creation.” The ramifications are huge. They are staggering. Usually, [these people] want to fit in with those who hate God, with the academic elite. They want to hold their position or whatever. They don’t want to be thought of as some psycho person who actually lives by faith, even though all those people who accuse them of that do [themselves live by faith, just in the wrong thing]. They just don’t know how to ask the right questions to bring them to that place.

You see, if Creation isn’t true, one, all of the authors of Scripture are liars. That is a problem for Christianity. Two: if Creation isn’t true, Jesus is a liar because Jesus spoke of Creation and Adam and Eve as literal things

that occurred in history. And so, Jesus is a liar and therefore He can't be our Savior. Three: If you don't believe in Creation, it is to declare that the Bible is unreliable and full of lies from stem to stern. Four: It is to deny the gospel. You say, "What do you mean, 'it is to deny the gospel'?" Well, where did the gospel come from? Why did the gospel come? [The gospel exists] because God made men perfect, men fell into sin, [men] sinned, God then killed an animal to clothe them as a consequence of their sin. First was perfection, then sin, then death. What does evolution say? First, life out of nothing—everything out of nothing—then, death, death, death, and eventually men evolved. There was no sin, there was no judgment, there was no Garden, there was no whatever. The whole foundation of the gospel is gone.

Modesty is irrelevant if evolution is true. That is why you see so much immodesty in the world. It is to deny that God wants us covered up. (That happens in the first three chapters of Genesis.) Marriage is irrelevant. What do we see in the world? [We see] the pitching of marriage [and] the redefining of marriage. Listen, if Genesis 1–3 isn't true, then marriage is irrelevant. Why get married?

Creation matters. If you reject the first three chapters of the Bible as true, then when are you going to start believing it? [Genesis] 4, 10, 16, Exodus 12, 13, 14, Leviticus? When are you going to start believing it? Then what are you going to do with all of the books that constantly mention that God created everything? Edit those parts out? Christianity is destroyed—if you reject Creation, you destroy the Christian faith, you destroy the veracity of the Bible, you basically call God a liar.

"By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things which are visible" [see Hebrews 11:1]. This is the Christian worldview, and it is this faith that men of old had and that's why they gained approval with God [see Hebrews 11:2]. May we do the same. Let's pray.

Father, we thank You for Your Word, and we thank You for its clarity in how things came into being, that You have always existed, You are all-

powerful and all-wise, and You spoke all things into being by Your word, as Genesis clearly states, “and then God said,” after each day You spoke it into being. Father, may we believe this, may we trust this, may we not be ashamed or cower before the ignorant scientific community that, by rejecting Christ and Your Word, have put themselves into darkness and will never see out of it until they come to saving faith. Father, if there [are] people here who have never considered these things, may they believe them by faith, that the only God is the God who created everything in six, literal, twenty-four hour periods, just as the Scriptures say. We believe that because we want to be approved before You. We pray this in Christ’s name, Amen.

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