

**The Beginning – Part 10**  
**The Place of Science and Scripture**

Genesis 1-2; Coast Community Church Pastor's Class; Earl Miles; August 28, 2016

**Views of Creation that Christians Hold**

A true Christian may hold a variation of one of three positions on the matter of creation and the age of the earth.

- Young earth/universe, Young Mankind (John Calvin, John MacArthur)
- Old earth/universe, Young Mankind (Charles Spurgeon, John Piper)
- A view of theistic evolution that does not undermine the Gospel (C.S. Lewis, Tim Keller)

1. Biologos, as an organization, does not appear to hold to the inerrancy of Scripture. Therefore, we must question their attempts to try to make evolutionary theory and the Bible compatible.

“Most Christians understand that, even though the Bible assumes a certain way of looking at the cosmos, from a *scientific* point of view the Bible is *wrong*. And that is perfectly fine.” – Peter Enns

2. The position of the Church historically is that the Bible is reliable in regard to science and history to the degree that it touches on these topics.

*WE AFFIRM* that Scripture in its entirety is inerrant, being free from all falsehood, fraud, or deceit. *WE DENY* that Biblical infallibility and inerrancy are limited to spiritual, religious, or redemptive themes, exclusive of assertions in the fields of history and science. We further deny that scientific hypotheses about earth history may properly be used to overturn the teaching of Scripture on creation and the flood. – *Chicago Statement on Biblical Inerrancy*

3. Christians should acknowledge the importance of general revelation in nature.
4. At the same time, Christians should see special revelation in the Bible as preeminent.
5. It is helpful to remember that the job of science is not to answer the question of origins but to explain the processes in nature that are presently observable.
6. It is also helpful to remember that the science of yesterday is often not the science of today and the science of today is likely not to be the science of tomorrow.

“Considering that the so-called science is constantly changing and it seems to be the rule for scientific men to contradict all who have gone before them, and that if you take up a book on almost any science, you will find that it largely consists of repudiations of all former theories, I think we can afford to wait until the scientific men have made up their minds as to what science really is.” - Charles Spurgeon

7. As Christians, we need to be open to scientific explanations of the world around us without being intimidated by the scientific community.

“The Christian Church in her utter folly during this present century has been recognizing a new authority, and the new authority, of course, is the man of knowledge, the man of culture, and particularly the man of scientific knowledge. And the church has been at great pains to do everything she can to please this new authority. This man of learning must never be offended, and in order to please him and duplicate him, the church has been ready to take things out of the Bible. She rejects and throws out the whole of the first three chapters of Genesis. Much of the other history throws out all the miracles. She’ll throw out anything in order to make her message pleasing and acceptable to this new authority, the man of knowledge, the man of learning, the man of science.” – Martyn Lloyd-Jones

8. So far, it seems fair to say that evolutionary theory in its grandest form (random, undirected, purposeless change over long ages from simple cells to more complex organisms) has been simply taught and assumed and has been far from conclusively demonstrated.

“In the learned books of worldly authors are contained some propositions about nature which are truly demonstrated, and others which are simply taught; in regard to the former, the task of wise theologians is to show that they are not contrary to Holy Scripture; as for the latter (which are taught but not demonstrated with necessity), if they contain anything contrary to the Holy Writ, then they must be considered indubitably false and must be demonstrated such by every possible means.” - Galileo

9. The weight of what Scripture actually says is not on the side of theistic evolution and does not easily accommodate long ages of billions of years.
10. The Bible does not speak to many things in science but it does give us some truth regarding creation that provides us with some necessary boundaries for our interaction with scientific theories.

- What we know, for sure, about the act of creation itself we know from Scripture. (Hebrews 11:3)
- God is the Creator. (Genesis 1:1)
- God created, out of nothing, by the Word of His power. (Hebrews 11:3)
- What God created was good. (1 Timothy 4:4)
- God created things to reproduce after their kind. (Genesis 1)
- God created mankind to rule over creation from the beginning. (Genesis 1)
- Adam was created from the earth and was a real historical figure. (Genesis 2)
- Death is the result of the Fall of Man. (Romans 5:12)
- Creation was greatly affected by the Fall. (Romans 8:20)
- God created everything through Jesus and for Jesus. (Colossians 1:16)

Filename: The Beginning - Part 10 edited-2.docx  
Directory: C:\Users\Diana\AppData\Local\Temp  
Template: C:\Users\Diana\AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Templates\Normal.dotm  
Title:  
Subject:  
Author: Earl Miles  
Keywords:  
Comments:  
Creation Date: 9/1/2016 10:54:00 AM  
Change Number: 4  
Last Saved On: 9/1/2016 10:55:00 AM  
Last Saved By: Earl Miles  
Total Editing Time: 1 Minute  
Last Printed On: 9/1/2016 12:04:00 PM  
As of Last Complete Printing  
Number of Pages: 8  
Number of Words: 2,558 (approx.)  
Number of Characters: 14,587 (approx.)