

IN THE BEGINNING

A Study of Genesis 1-4

St. Paul's Lutheran Church of Minot, ND



What is Science?

Scientists start with a hypothesis. They then make a bold assertion; however, they then search for data that would falsify their hypothesis. If they find such data, then they give up on the hypotheses, and then develop another hypothesis to test. And so, a scientist can start anywhere, with any kind of guess or hunch. If the scientist can repeatedly test and corroborate, the hypothesis moves to the realm of a scientific theory.

Study 2

Science?

What is Science?

Can vs. Should?

*Difference between Science and
Theology/Philosophy*

*Darwinism vs. Creationism
– at a Glance*

Can vs. Should

One of the great aspects of science is that it helps us what we can and cannot do. For example, a controversial study that appeared online several years ago was whether a team of doctors could remove a man's head and put it on a younger body? They called this a head-to-body transplant. Now, science is restricted with this study in determining whether this procedure

can be done. However, science cannot answer the question whether a procedure like this 'should' be done. The realm of 'should' does not fall into the realm of science but falls within the realm of theology, philosophy, and potentially public policy. When a scientist speaks to what should and should not be done, they are no longer performing science, but ethics.

Differences between Science and Theology

Science is an open system - it is liquid. As new data is presented, hypotheses and theses will change to reflect new data.

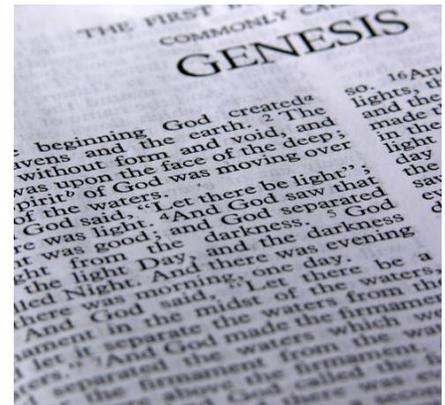
Theology is a closed system - it is concrete. There are no new revelations and no further atonement; therefore, doctrine and morals do not change.

Tragically, when science is treated as theology, and theology is treated as science, it results in the destruction of each discipline and grievous consequences ensue.

Because Science is an open system, a good scientist is enthusiastic towards new data, uncovers every rock, and expects change. They anticipate what can be said - they are future-oriented for the sake of the present.

Because Theology is a closed system, a good theologian is skeptical towards new doctrines, stands upon the Rock, and rejects change. They embrace what has been said - they are historically oriented for the sake of the present.

Tragically, when scientists act as theologians and theologians act as scientists, it results in the destruction of each vocation, and grievous consequences ensue.



Since science is liquid and changing - moving - we do not trust the science but follow the science; since theology is concrete and unchanging - stationary - we do not follow the theology but trust the theology. It is difficult follow that which is stationary, and it is difficult to trust that which is always moving.

Darwinism vs. Creationism – at a Glance

Darwin himself knew the fossil record failed to support his tree of life theory. He acknowledged that major groups of animals—he calls them divisions, now they're called phyla—appear suddenly in the fossil record. (The Weekly Standard, October 1, 2001)

Darwin believed that future fossil discoveries would vindicate his theory—but that hasn't happened. Actually, fossil discoveries over the last 150 years have turned his tree upside down by showing the Cambrian explosion was even more abrupt and extensive than scientists once thought. (Strobel)

Evolution has failed to explain how non-living chemicals could somehow self-assemble into the first living cell. (Strobel)

Michael Denton observed, the idea that undirected processes could somehow turn dead chemicals into all the extraordinary complexity of living things is surely “no more nor less than the great cosmogenic myth” of our times.

The overall fossil record has stubbornly refused to confirm the grand claims of evolution... (Denton)

There is simply insufficient evidence from which to draw the radical conclusion that large-scale, macro-evolutionary transitions have occurred. (Strobel)

The idea of mutation is central to macroevolution, however mutations can only cause changes in existing information. There can be no increase in information, and in general the results are injurious. New blueprints for new functions or new organs cannot arise; mutations cannot be the source of new (creative) information. (Behe,)

The slant of the earth is tilted at an angle of twenty-three degrees producing our seasons. Scientists tell us that if the earth had not been tilted exactly as it is, vapors from the oceans would move both north and south, piling up vast continents of ice.

If the moon were only 50,000 miles away from the earth instead of 250,000 miles, the tides might be so enormous that all continents would be submerged in water—even the mountains would be eroded.

If the crust of the earth had been only ten feet thicker, there would be no oxygen, and without it all animal life would die.

Had the oceans been a few feet deeper, carbon dioxide and oxygen would have been absorbed and no vegetable life would exist.

The earth's weight has been estimated at six sextillion tons (that's a six with twenty-one zeros.) Yet it is perfectly balanced and turns easily on its axis. Considering the tremendous weight of six sextillion tons rolling at this fantastic speed around an invisible axis, held in place by unseen bands of gravitation, the words of Job 26:7 take on unparalleled significance: “He poised the earth on nothingness.”