



NEW LIFE

BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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"For the Word of God and for the testimony of Jesus Christ" (Rev 1:9)

Vol. 21 No. 23

LORD'S DAY 04 JUNE 2017

ORDER OF WORSHIP

	<i>Morning Service – 11am</i>	<i>Evening Service – 4pm</i>
<i>Prelude</i>	<i>The Lord Is in His Holy Temple</i>	
<i>Call to Worship</i>	John 14:15-18	Psalms 130:1-8
<i>Opening Hymn *</i>	RHC 239 – <i>"Come Gracious Spirit, Heavenly Dove"</i>	RHC 301 – <i>"My Faith Has Found A Resting Place"</i>
<i>Opening Prayer *</i>	Dr Carl Martin	Keene Chen
<i>Gloria Patri *</i>	<i>Glory Be to the Father</i>	---
<i>Apostles' Creed *</i>	Apostles' Creed	---
<i>Responsive Reading</i>	Psalms 66	---
<i>Second Hymn *</i>	<i>Psalms 66 verses 1-4</i> (to the tune of Evan, RHC 259)	---
<i>Announcements & Memory Verse</i>	Dr Carl Martin	Keene Chen
<i>Tithes & Offerings & Doxology *</i>	RHC 243 – <i>"The Comforter Has Come"</i>	---
<i>Scriptural Text</i>	1 Corinthians 2:10-16	Jeremiah 23:9-40
<i>Pastoral Prayer</i>	Dr Carl Martin	Dr Carl Martin
<i>Sermon Message</i>	<i>The Spirit of the World & The Spirit of God</i>	<i>The Secret of Faithful Service</i>
<i>Closing Hymn *</i>	RHC 233 – <i>"O Breath of Life"</i>	RHC 446 – <i>"Lord, Speak to Me"</i>
<i>Benediction/3-Fold Amen *</i>	Dr Carl Martin	Dr Carl Martin
<i>Postlude</i>	<i>The Lord Bless You</i>	---
<i>* Congregation Stands</i>		

THE LORD IS IN HIS HOLY TEMPLE

The Lord is in His holy temple,
The Lord is in His holy temple:
Let all the earth keep silence,
Let all the earth keep silence before Him -
Keep silence, keep silence before Him. Amen.

DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost,
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world
without end. Amen, Amen.

THE LORD BLESS YOU

The Lord bless you and keep you;
The Lord lift His countenance upon you,
and give you peace, and give you peace;
The Lord make His face to shine upon you,
And be gracious unto you, be gracious,
The Lord be gracious, gracious unto you. Amen.

"Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life." - Proverbs 4:23

THE VALIDATED CASE FOR A BIBLICALLY CREATIONIST WORLDVIEW

Adapted from Maranatha Messenger, Sunday 5th March 2017

Introduction

Biblical Christianity over the last 1½ centuries have been under siege by the popular philosophy of Darwinian and evolutionary ideas. By the turn of the 20th century, liberal theologians had begun to re-interpret the gospel and the Bible in terms of evolutionary and modernistic thought. The Bible is said to be just one of the many religious writings which have errors in it. Human nature is good and morality is the heart of religion. With this comes the higher criticism of the Bible as a book with errors and the undermining of its veracity by a so-called scientific approach to the origins of man and universe which discredits creationism and is the beginning of a flood gate of evolutionary postulations and falsehood. This article seeks to examine and establish a credible and visible basis for a creationist perspective in the understanding of the origin of things.

Of Darwin and Lyall - the Unholy Duo

Charles Lyall, the author of The Geology of the Earth in 1800 is generally considered to be the father of geological uniformitarianism who in turn was influenced by James Hutton. The former was a friend of Charles Darwin (1809-82) who encouraged the latter to publish his Origin of Species in 1859. Darwin later also wrote The Descent of Man in 1871. Under his influence, Darwin later acknowledged his indebtedness to Lyall for justifying the vast time spans needed to make. Evolution work by random variation and natural selection as an alternative to the biblical doctrine of orderly creation in 6 literal 24 hours days. Some tried to work out a compromise between supernatural creation and chance over hundreds of millions of years of evolution and proposed an incoherent theistic evolution concept which is a strange compromise accepted by many Bible colleges and scholars today. Some churches and seminaries have accepted full-blown theistic evolution as their doctrine, others changed it to progressive creation or reconstructive creation (i.e. so-called Gap Theory) and some are open to all options and are non-committal on this vital issue.

There is also another spurious theory which turn a universal catastrophic flood into a conjecture of a localised deluge in the early Mesopotamia area only. In the area of public education, John Dewey, who was the chief architect of progressive education, had influenced the domain of public education in USA in the 20th century and was a founder of the American Humanist Association which was profoundly committed to evolution. Dewey studied the Russian educational system extensively and was a socialist and materialist pantheist himself. He sees the child as an evolved animal that has to be trained for his place to fit into society and not as an individual created in the image of God. The consequent effects have been disastrous nationwide. Creation science is not allowed to be taught in most, if not all, universities and public schools but unproven evolution is paraded as Bible truths.

The Influence Upon Churches / Christian Colleges

Unfortunately, churches and schools today generally take a hands-off approach to this debate claiming that it is only the purview of scientists and we are only to concentrate on

service and godly living. A sound biblical understanding of Creation vis a vis evolution is the very foundation that is necessary for effective evangelism and godliness for any Christian institution including the home. The knowledge of a sovereign Creator God, who is still only the omnipotent Controller of the universe, (i.e. Theism and not Deism) gives the vital meaning to life and soberly reminds us of our accountability before God one day (Hebrews 9:27, 2 Corinthians 5:10). The enemy undermines our foundation when the veracity of Genesis is under attack and we need to defend that. Mission agencies should consider teaching supernatural creationism as the centre of their mission strategy to reach out to different ethnic or people groups. With the interest of children in dinosaurs, parents can educate them on the origin of these fascinating creatures and how they were mentioned in the Bible and not what they will hear in schools, parks and museums and from a predominantly evolutionary perspective.

The Adverse Effects of Evolutionary Thinking

Evolutionary thinking and teaching has not only undermined biblical doctrine and teaching but has also led to the demise of morality in Western countries. Homosexuality, pornography, euthanasia, abortions, divorces and gross immorality is at an all-time high. This has been justified by an evolutionary precept that humans simply belong to an order of evolved animals and over the years, there are basic natural instincts normal in both man and animals and since there is no Creator, there is no accountability to God and judgement one day. Atheism, communism, racism, psychology, abortion, euthanasia, drugs, and crimes are natural programmes of the evolutionary thinking and philosophy where it is fully realised and applied in human society today.

Secular Psychology and Evolution

Sigmund Freud (1856-1939) is generally considered to be the father of modern psychology. It has been known that Freud is an ardent follower of Darwin and he relies heavily on the evolutionary theories of Darwin for his psychoanalytical theories. Modern secular psychology (although many have now disowned Freud) is still built on his foundation and operate completely within the evolutionary framework, regarding man as an evolved animal with natural instincts and predictable behavioural patterns. A growing number of its practitioners are also involved in other New Age Pantheism on pseudo-scientific base and framework of religious integration. Freud and Marx (1818-85) were opposed to the concept of God and laid the foundation to many defective theories about secular psychology (i.e. the inherent goodness of man) including positive thinking (and possibility thinking), self-esteem and psychological counselling which are commonly popularised today in schools, churches, universities, marketing seminars and motivational self-help talks. Believers are to be aware of such humanistic teachings and to admonish and warn others of its defective teachings as well.

Evidence against Evolution and for Creation

The most significant feature about the fossil record is whether the matter is obscure of any true evolutionary transitional form or not. Henry Morris, the past President of the International Creation Research, in his book, The Long War against God, quoted the leading Palaeontologist SM Stanley of John Hopkins objectively saying, "The known fossil record fails to document a single sample of phyletic evolution accomplishing a major morphological transition." This is such a major setback for evolution all these years, that some have propounded a "punctuated equilibrium" to justify why there are no intermediate

fossils of man on the **Origin of Species** (1859) and the **Descent of Man** in 1871 and apes found over the last 160 years (since Darwin's notorious book) which has not changed. The outlandish claim that all of the well-designed natural processes and man as the apex of this comes from chance and disorder originally strategically insulting the intelligence of evolutionists themselves. Instead of evolution to higher life forms, we see every day around us decay, deterioration and extinction, that is devolution in action. Dr Pierre Grasse, one of the famous modern zoologists speaks of a myth of evolution which is rapidly unfolding around us (Morris, 278). Dr Wolfgang Smith, a renowned Mathematician-Physicist challenged the claim that evolution is an established fact and asked for concrete evidence (Morris, 279). Dr Michael Denton, a distinguished Australian molecular geneticist recently wrote:

"It is the sheer universality of perfection the fact that every where we look to, whatever depth we look into, we find an elegance and ingenuity of an absolutely transcendent quality which militates against the idea of randomness or chance. Is it really credible that random processes could have constructed a reality, the smallest element of which a functional protein or gene or DNA, is complex beyond our own creative capacities, a reality which is the very antithesis of chance, which excel in every sense anything produced by the intelligence of man? Alongside the level of ingenuity and complexity exhibited the molecular machinery of life, even our most advanced artefacts are clumsy." (Evolution - A Theory in Crisis, London: Barnett Books. 1985, 342).

In fact, of all the so-called scientific evidence of evolution, the controversial science of paleoanthropology which claimed that it has found some missing links has been exposed to be either just misinterpreted or descriptive finds by over-excited scientists (i.e. the Piltdown Man, Nebraska man, etc.) or false claims (i.e. Java man) made by some desperate and deceptive evolutionists. For example, Haeckel's fraudulent embryo drawings in the 1950s when he used images of various species to support his theory that a human embryo evolved through the different developmental stages of growth with pictures of the fish, salamander, turtle and chicken, rabbit and then the human. These have been exposed to be fallacious and are not used in biology tests anymore. Dr Danny Faulkner, a renowned astronomer who is also the professor of astronomy and Physics in the University of South Carolina and a member of the American Astronomical Society said that God created the world in six literal days less than 10,000 years ago (Vol 39, No 26, Christian News, 28). He believes in the universal flood and the fall of man and the account of creation given in the book of Genesis. You do not have to commit intellectual suicide to be a Christian scientist.

Another credible evidence against evolution was the volcanic eruption of Mount St Helens in 1980 and 1982. The eruptions caused landslides and ash falls and emptied out a massive lake, ripped up trees and caused incredible mudflow that eroded a canyon 30m deep, almost a scale model of Grand Canyon which evolutionists claimed took millions of years to reach that geological formation. The truth is finally out: It is not millions of years of gradual change but a few months of catastrophic volcanic eruption that can cause such a phenomenal change to our earth's topography. (That is a forceful argument in support of the universal deluge mentioned in Genesis 7 by the way). In fact, Dr Steve Austin, a geologist, noted that a 7m layered rock was formed in one day on 12 June 1980, surprising many evolutionists. (Creation Ex nihilo, Jun-Aug 2001, vol 23, No 1, 25)

Another interesting fact comes from the South East Australia-Latrobe Valley, which has

thick deposit of coal being mined. The question that baffled the scientists is “how did the coal get there?” The answer is given in the first book of the bible where the universal flood would have uprooted the entire pre-flood biosphere and buried it with huge quantities of mud and sand. It convincingly demonstrates that we do not need millions of years to form coals but a catastrophic event like the deluge mentioned in the bible about 4,500 years ago will be sufficient. (It is not a little amount of water over a long period of time but lots of water over a short time). The kind of plants that are found do not grow in a swamp on a flood plain and the thickness of the seam require very precise geologic conditions as well. This phenomenon shows that there is overwhelming evidence that points to the catastrophic Genesis flood rather than a slow process of so-called vegetation accumulated in a swamp over millions of years. (Creation Ex nihilo, March-May 200, 1 Vol 23, no 2, 22-27)

Empirically observable phenomena over time only goes to validate and support the biblical claims of the scriptures which is absolutely trustworthy and reliable scientists are beginning to expose the fallacious claims of Darwin and the possible explanation from a biblical perspective that is not unscientific at all. It is to be stated that evolution is a belief system in disguise and not a true science as empirical science must be testable, observable and verifiable but this cannot be said of evolutionary theories. Scientists are also biased in their belief in that they can be agnostic (or atheistic or Bible-believing) and this can affect their worldview of life and their scientific conclusions. We need to go behind their presuppositions and expose their religious convictions first and most evolutionists are self-declared atheists or agnostics or even new age (which is hardly Science at all). As Christians, we acknowledge that the Christian religion is not a Science (although this does not contradict Science fundamentally if it is addresses in the Bible) but a religious belief in God that is based on reliable and reasonable faith in Christ taught in the inspired Word of God.

The Necessity of Creation Evangelism

A biblical Creation worldview is an important starting point for gospel outreach and missions. New Tribe Missions find it effective in their pioneering mission work to unreached tribes to starts right from the very beginning, with the Genesis account of creation, the fall of man, the promise of a Messiah and later the flood and other relevant details leading to the free offer of the pure gospel (Genesis 1-5).

Peter in 1 Peter 3:15 says, *“But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear”*. We see In Paul’s preaching words like reasoned, disputing, persuading (Acts 17:2,18:4,19 19:8-9, 24:25) proving and alleging (Acts 9:22, 17:3) disputed (Acts 9:29) and mightily convinced (Acts 18:28). Paul used every legitimate argument he could to convince his hearers of God’s word that ultimately it was not Paul but God that is working in the hearts of men. From a human perspective, we need to diligently attempt to share with and convince people of the truth in God’s Word using sound, biblical reasoning and explanations that makes sense to the hearer and know the power of the gospel unto salvation wrought only in the hearts and minds of men by the Holy Spirit (1 Peter 3:15).

The Apostle Paul at Mars Hill, began his evangelistic sermon to the learned Greeks, from the dawn of creation to the plight of men and the resurrection of Christ and our desperate

need to know, repent and seek the living and true God, who will also judge us one day (Acts 17:23-32). That is the good way to start sharing the gospel from the creation account to the coming of Christ, His death and resurrection. The failure of Bible-believing churches to defend and promote true Biblical creationism will result in evolutionary humanism permeating our entire society, including our houses, churches, schools, mass medias and courts as well. We need to know what we believe and why and be able to share it. The famous Scopes trial of 1925 in Dayton, Tennessee showed that William Bryan Jennings (who represented Christianity at the trial) was unable to answer many questions fielded by the advocate, Clarence Darrow concerning origins and creation as opposed to evolution. A sincere Christian leader, Jennings's inability to give an answer was unhelpful to the cause of truth to say the least.

In his book Creation Evangelism for the New Millennium, Ken Ham gave the seven Cs approach to the presentation of the major events in history as an evangelistic tool (Ken Ham, 114-122). They are Creation, Corruption, Catastrophe, Confusion, Christ, Cross and Consummation. This can be a useful approach to evangelistic bible study on the book of Genesis for those who are keen to find out more about the Bible or the history of man. Be prepared all the time to give an account of your faith clearly and biblically and let the Holy Ghost work in the hearts of man. *"Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool"* (Isaiah 1:18).

The origins of dinosaurs that often intrigued the minds of the young can be a good starting point to bring the gospel to them in a creative way. The Bible speaks of dinosaurs in the behemoth and the leviathan and they existed not tens of millions of years ago during the so-called Jurassic period but only a few thousands years ago. They lived side by side with men as told to us in the book of Job (Job 40:15-18, 41:1). It is the fall of man later and the universal flood during Noah's time that led to the demise of many of the dinosaurs and not the so-called asteroid or "big bang" theory that hit the earth mysteriously, as speculated and claimed by some evolutionists.

The Testimony of God's Word

The word of God has declared unequivocally in Hebrews 1:10-12 which says, *"And, Thou, Lord, in the beginning hast laid the foundation of the earth; and the heavens are the works of thine hands: They shall perish; but thou remainest; and they all shall wax old as doth a garment; And as a vesture shalt thou fold them up, and they shall be changed: but thou art the same, and thy years shall not fail"*. While the prophet says in Isaiah 45:18 says, *"For thus saith the LORD that created the heavens; God himself that formed the earth and made it; he hath established it, he created it not in vain, he formed it to be inhabited: I am the LORD; and there is none else"* and the psalmist in Psalm 102:25 said, *"Of old hast thou laid the foundation of the earth: and the heavens are the work of thy hands."* This is a clear reference to the second law of thermodynamics (i.e. the law of entropy).

We believe that the bible is the inspired and infallible record that God has authored and its statements on the origins of man stated in Genesis (and elsewhere in the Bible) are all authentic and totally reliable. Up till this date, there has never been a biblical fact that is disproved by science but the Bible is verified by post and modern scientific and archaeological discoveries all the time. Recent historical research has uncovered man's unexpected links between scientific enterprise and biblical theology. It is no coincidence