

Witnessing in a world where evolution claims “There is no God”

by Mark Bergemann

Part 1: Why Confront Evolution in Your Witness?

Part 2: Handling Evolution in Your Witness.

Part 3: Evolution/Creation –Two Starting Points.

Part 4: Evolution is Incompatible with the Christian Faith.

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Christians who accept evolution place their Christian faith in jeopardy. All false doctrine, including denying creation, leads away from Jesus and is damaging to faith. Evolution is especially dangerous, since it attacks the gospel message. Let’s look at some of the reasons why evolution is incompatible with the Christian faith.

Creation Throughout Scripture

The evolution story is contrary to the historical accounts God reveals in Genesis 1-11. Evolution is also contrary to the rest of Scripture. The prophets, Jesus, and the Apostles spoke about Adam, Eve, Cain, Abel, Enoch, Noah, the flood, Eden, creation, the fall into sin, and the curse, as real people and true events.²

Death a Result of Sin

The evolution story claims animals and people were produced through millions of years of death and suffering. If evolution were true, then death and suffering would be part of God’s design. But on the last day of creation, God declared everything he created “very good” (Gen 1:31). Death is not “very good.” Death and suffering are not the means God used to create animals and people.

Death and suffering entered into the world as a result of sin. Throughout Scriptures, God repeatedly reveals that death resulted from the disobedience of Adam, and that death will be destroyed by Christ Jesus. Romans 5:12-21 and 1 Corinthians 15:20-49 explain this in great detail. Here are a few select quotes.

Sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all men, because all sinned. Romans 5:12

For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man. For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive. 1 Corinthians 15:21-22

For if the many died by the trespass of the one man, how much more did God’s grace and the gift that came by the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, overflow to the many! Romans 5:15

Just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, so also through the obedience of the one man the many will be made righteous. Romans 5:19

¹ Much of part 4 is taken from a video; Mark Bergemann, *Why Do Some Believe In Millions Of Years?*, April 11, 2013. www.LutheranScience.org/video (accessed February 14, 2015)

² Exodus 20:8-11; 1 Chronicles 1:1; 1 Chronicles 1:1-27; Psalm 90:3; Psalm 103:14; Psalm 104; Ecclesiastes 3:20; Isaiah 54:9; Matthew 19:3-6; Matthew 19:28; Matthew 23:34-35; Matthew 24:36-39; Mark 10:6-9; Luke 3:23-38; Luke 11:50-51; Luke 17:26-27; Acts 3:17-21; Romans 5:12-21; 1 Corinthians 11:8; 1 Corinthians 11:12; 1 Corinthians 15:20-22; 1 Corinthians 15:42-49; 2 Corinthians 11:3; 1 Timothy 2:13-14; Hebrews 11:4; Hebrews 11:5; Hebrews 11:7; Hebrews 12:24; 1 Peter 3:20; 2 Peter 2:5; 2 Peter 3:3-6; 1 John 3:12; Jude 11; Jude 14, Revelation 22:3.

The last enemy to be destroyed is death. 1 Corinthians 15:26

Did God really say?

In the Garden Of Eden, Satan tempted our mother Eve by asking, "Did God really say?" Today Satan tempts us through evolution by asking,

- Did God really say, that He created everything in six days?
- Did God really say, that there was a flood that covered the whole earth?
- Did God really say, that death and suffering are a consequence of sin?
- Did God really say, that Jesus came to destroy death and return creation to its original state?

Other Issues

Evolution attacks the very Gospel itself, the need for a Savior, and the doctrines of man, original sin, actual sin, the fall into sin, the law, and death. For an excellent resource, see Lyle W. Lange's *God So Loved the World – A Study of Christian Doctrine* (Milwaukee: Northwestern Publishing House, 2005), 158-161.

Suppressing the Truth of Creation

Why do some people, even some Christians, believe in millions of years? The simple answer is because of sin. The Old Adam in each of us does not want a creator, because then we would be subject to the creator's authority. Peer pressure also tempts us to reject God's revealed truth, and instead believe the lie of evolution. Everywhere we are told that creationists are unscientific. How can thinking people believe in a Creator God who made everything in six days? This is why evolution can be so seductive to us.

It may be understandable that an atheist would try to construct a story about how the world came to be without a creator god. It may be harder to understand why a Christian would replace God's revealed truth about creation with a man-made story constructed for the purpose of eliminating the need for a creator.

Roman 1:18-32 describes the sinful human nature which we all possess. God reveals himself as Creator to all people through nature, yet we suppress that truth. Christians who accept evolution place their Christian faith in jeopardy.

Blunting The Temptation Of Evolution³

Evolution truly is a deception of Satan, which he uses to pull God's children (you and me) away from trust in Jesus. It is through faith that we believe in creation. Even so, the temptation of evolution is blunted when we learn of evolution's logical problems and especially of the biased assumptions on which evolution is based.

The Lutheran Science Institute (LSI) website has many resources showing logical problems with evolution. Take some time to look through the collection of 200 LSI Journal articles, 900 LSI Blog entries, and dozens of articles by other Confessional Lutherans.

www.LutheranScience.org

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³ This section is taken from Mark Bergemann, "How Can A Lie Like Evolution Have Scientific Evidence?" *LSI Journal* (Jan - March, 2015), 8. www.LutheranScience.org/LieHaveEvidence (accessed February 14, 2015)