

The Church and Science

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Doctrine of Creation: Grace Fellowship Church

We believe that in the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth (Genesis 1:1) “By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God’s command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible (Hebrews 11:3). We further believe that the creation of the heavens with all their hosts, the earth and all that is on it, the seas and all that is in them (Nehemiah 9:6) were created in six literal days (Exodus 20:11) and that after God had created everything He “saw all that He had made” and said “it was very good (Genesis 1:31). “On the seventh day He abstained from work and rested (Exodus 31:17). We hold the position that all human life is sacred and is created in God’s image. Psalm 139:13-18, Genesis 1:26-27 Job 10:8-12 Jeremiah 20:17.

Religion Becoming Obsolete? It Could Happen!

“...Science is seen as a threat and is often not welcome in the religious debate. Scientists, agnostics, and atheists are savagely attacked for having the audacity to question the beliefs of people living their lives through blind faith.” *Huffington Post Science: 8/2014*

1. THE CHURCH HAS BEEN GIVEN THE RESPONSIBILITY TO UNITE IN THE DEFENSE OF SCRIPTURE.

Jude 3 “Beloved, although I was very eager to write to you about our common salvation, I found it necessary to write appealing to you to contend for *the* faith that was once for all delivered to the saints.”

1 Peter 3:15 “...but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in *you*; yet do it with gentleness and respect.”

1 Timothy 3:15 “...if I delay, you may know how one ought to behave in the *household of God, which is the church of the living God, a pillar and buttress of the truth.*”

Ephesians 4:3 “...eager to *maintain* the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body, and one Spirit –just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call – one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.”

2. IT’S NOT ABOUT RELIGION VS. SCIENCE. IT’S ABOUT DEFINITION

FAITH: Hebrews 11:1 “Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. For by it the people of old received their commendation. 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 that are visible.”

SCIENCE: From Latin *scientia* meaning Knowledge. (opposed to intuition or belief). *Websters Universal Unabridged Dictionary.*

Proverbs 1:7 “The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, fools despise wisdom and instruction.”

NATURAL SELECTION: that process in nature by which individuals (of a species) best fitted for the conditions in which they are placed survive, propagate, and spread, while the less fitted die out and disappear. *Websters Universal Unabridged Dictionary.*

3. THE CREDIBILITY OF BIBLICAL HISTORY RELATES TO THE CREDIBILITY OF THE BIBLICAL MESSAGE.

Genesis 1:31 “And God saw everything He had made, and behold, it was **very good**. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.”

Genesis 2:16 “And the Lord God commanded the man, saying ‘You may eat of every tree of the garden, but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.’”

Romans 5:17 “For if, because of one man’s trespass, death reigned through that one man, much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man Jesus Christ.”

Colossians 1:20 “...and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.”

4. THERE IS A CREATOR, HE BECAME OUR SAVIOR.

*“There is probably no god, now stop worrying and enjoy your life”
Atheist Bus Campaign, Great Brittain, October 2008*

Amos 4: 12b-13 “....Prepare to meet your God, O Israel! For behold, he who forms the mountains and creates the wind and declares to man what is his thought, who makes the morning darkness, and treads on the heights of the earth – the Lord, The God of hosts, is his name!”

Amos 5:6a “Seek the Lord and live.....Amos 5:8 He who made the Pleiades and Orion, and turns deep darkness into the morning and darkens the day into night, who calls for the waters of the sea and pours them out on the surface of the earth, the Lord is his name.”

Colossians 1:15-23 “He is the image of the invisible God the firstborn of all creation. For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities – all things were created through him and for him. And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross. And you, who once were alienated and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, he has now reconciled in his body of flesh by his death, in order to present you holy and blameless and above reproach before him, if indeed you continue in the faith, stable and steadfast, not shifting from the hope of the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed in all creation under heaven, and of which I, Paul, became a minister.”

Steve Ham, a member of Grace Fellowship Church, is also the Senior Director of Worldwide Outreach for the ministry of Answers of Genesis. He is married to Trish and father to Sarah and David. Steve is a regular speaker and writer for the AiG ministry and hosts the popular podcast, Answers Conversations. He has a passion not only for creation apologetics but also for providing support to strengthen the worldwide church in the great mission of the gospel. Among his authored materials, the Answers for Life evangelism course has been used effectively to see many people come to faith in Jesus Christ. Steve is also a graduate student of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.