

THE INSPIRATION OF THE BIBLE



WHAT IS INSPIRATION?

The supernatural process whereby God “breathes out” the Scriptures (2 Timothy 3:16), who by the Holy Spirit moved upon willing human writers (2 Peter 1:20-21), while at the same time using their unique personalities and writing styles. Since God cannot make mistakes or lie (Titus 1:2), this process guarantees the truthfulness of what is written (John 17:17).

KEY WORDS

Inspiration (Greek, *theopneustos*) means “breathed out.”

Scripture (Greek, *graphe*) means the “writings”—the writings were inspired, not the writers.

KEY CONCEPTS

- Inspiration means the Bible is the **WORD OF GOD**.
- Inspiration is **VERBAL** because it was revealed in intelligible words and sentences.
- Inspiration is **PLENARY (FULL)** because it extends to the whole revelation in all its parts.
- Inspiration implies **INERRANCY** because God cannot lie, make mistakes, or fail.
- Inspiration gives **FINAL AUTHORITY** because the words come from God.

KEY NUMBERS

Though the word *inspiration* (Greek *theopneustos*) is used only once in the New Testament (2 Timothy 3:16), there are more than **2,500** claims to inspiration in the Old Testament Scriptures. These claims are short phrases that attribute words to God, such as “Thus says the LORD...” (Exodus 5:1; Zechariah 8:2).

680 claims in the Pentateuch

418 in the historical books

195 in the poetical books

1,307 in the prophetic books

KEY PASSAGES

2 Peter 1:21—

The Process of Inspiration

“No prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit” (ESV).

2 Timothy 3:16-17—

The Source of Inspiration

“All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work” (NKJV).

KEY QUESTION

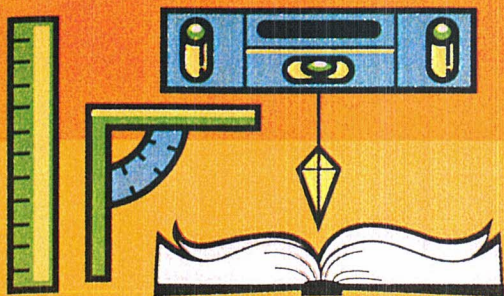
Q:

How can God inspire an infallible book without error through fallible human instruments (writers) who make mistakes?

A:

God guided the fallible writers through the infallible Holy Spirit to refrain from error when writing the Scriptures (2 Peter 1:21). God drew a perfectly straight line with a crooked stick. Besides, in regular human experience, humans only err sometimes and do not necessarily make errors all the time.

THE CANON OF THE BIBLE



WHAT IS THE CANON?

In classical and biblical usage, the word *canon* means “rule” (cf. Galatians 6:16), “standard,” or “measuring rod” (see Ezekiel 40:3; 42:16). Historically, the people of Israel never used the term to refer to their Scriptures. Christians and theologians later used *canon* to refer to the officially recognized collection of inspired books of the Bible.

THREE STEPS OF CANONIZATION

- 1 Source:** The inspired books were determined by God.
- 2 Discovery:** The people of God recognized which books are inspired.
- 3 Collection:** The recognized books were progressively collected and preserved by the people of God into a divinely authoritative canon.

THE FORMATION OF THE OLD TESTAMENT CANON

The Old Testament books, which began to be recorded in the second millennium BC, were written in Hebrew (with some Aramaic). After the books were written, God’s people immediately accepted them as Holy Scripture (Daniel 9:2; cf. Jeremiah 25:11). In some cases, they placed these books in the ark of the covenant (Deuteronomy 31:24-26; see also 1 Samuel 10:25; 2 Kings 22:8). The 39 books of the Old Testament were written over a period of ca. 1,100 years (ca. 1500–400 BC). This long period of time is in stark contrast to the New Testament Scriptures, which were written over a span of about 60 years (ca. AD 40–100).

START TO FINISH

A time line of when the church recognized the inspired text and the principles that guided their discovery

- 1 CA. AD 35–95** The people of God (Christians) immediately accepted the inspired and authoritative books written in the New Testament (2 Peter 3:16; 1 Timothy 5:18). The later acceptance of a canon was for official recognition as the church grew and spread.
- 2 CA. AD 110** Every book of the New Testament was cited (except two) by Ignatius, Clement of Rome, and Polycarp. By AD 150, the apostolic fathers cited every New Testament book as authoritative.
- 3 CA. AD 140** The first attempt at a canon was by the heretic Marcion, who rejected the entire Old Testament, apocrypha, and Gospels (except Luke). He accepted the Pauline epistles (except the pastoral epistles).
- 4 CA. AD 200** L.A. Muratori discovered a canon list in the Milan Library that includes the synoptic Gospels, Pauline epistles, 1 and 2 John, Jude, and Revelation. This is known as the Muratorian Canon.
- 5 EARLY 4TH CENTURY** The Apostolic Canon 85 (final Latin version) accepts all books of the Old and New Testament except Revelation.
- 6 AD 325** The church historian Eusebius lists all the Gospels, Pauline epistles (except Philemon), 1 Peter, 1 John, and Revelation in the canon. He does not include the general epistles, 2 Peter, 2 and 3 John, and Jude.
- 7 MID-4TH CENTURY** Theodore Mommesen discovered a 10th-century Latin list that contains all but six New Testament books. The list probably originated in North Africa by the 4th century. This is known as the Cheltenham Canon.
- 8 AD 367** Athanasius, Bishop of Alexandria, lists all 27 books in his paschal letter. This is the earliest complete canon of the New Testament.
- 9 AD 382/397** The Synod of Rome (382) gave final approval to the canon for all the Western churches. The Synod of Carthage (397) gave final acceptance to the canon to the entire church, thus completing the canon.

HISTORICAL RELIABILITY OF THE BIBLE

There are three ways historical texts are evaluated for their level of historical reliability:



BIBLIOGRAPHICAL TEST

which examines the quantity, quality, and dating of the biblical manuscripts. This test reveals that there is adequate basis for reconstructing the original biblical text.

- Old and New Testament manuscripts number in the tens of thousands, giving confidence that it is possible to accurately reconstruct the biblical text.
- Every book of the Bible has manuscript support for its reconstruction.
- The New Testament has hundreds of early Scripture notations and announcements (lectionaries) that contribute to the integrity of the biblical text.
- The Bible has the most bibliographical support of any work of ancient literature.
- The early dates of the manuscripts, copied close to the time of the events described in the Bible, do not allow enough time for myth and embellishment to have altered the text.
- Research shows that the accuracy of the transmission of the biblical text stands at more than 99 percent. The small percentage of minor mistakes are due to scribal error (spelling, word order, etc.) and do not affect any major doctrines or historical narratives.



EXTERNAL EVIDENCE TEST

examines the evidence found outside the New Testament in disciplines such as historical literature and archaeology.

- There are thousands of artifacts that either directly or indirectly confirm the history recorded in the Bible.
- Archaeological excavation has unearthed dozens of cities mentioned in the Bible that critics formerly claimed were mythological.
- Archaeology has confirmed the past existence of nearly 100 figures mentioned in Scripture.
- Ancient small clay stamp seals (plural, *bullae*; singular, *bulia*) used to seal letters and packages have verified the names and titles of dozens of leaders named in the Bible.
- Ancient coin discoveries have confirmed many rulers, symbols, dates, and religious customs mentioned in the Bible.
- Through inscription discoveries, archaeologists have confirmed the proper ancient titles of rulers and languages spoken throughout the ancient Roman Empire.
- Hundreds of ancient government documents written on clay have confirmed the many events, military exploits, and deeds of rulers and kings mentioned in the Bible (Babylonian Chronicles, Taylor Prism, etc.).
- The James Ossuary (1st-century AD funeral bone box) reflects the earliest witness to the family of Jesus, displaying the Aramaic names of James, Joseph, and Jesus.
- There are more than a dozen pieces of ancient extrabiblical literature, including Jewish literature, that confirm the historicity of Jesus of Nazareth.



INTERNAL EVIDENCE TEST

evaluates the *internal* contents of the biblical writings themselves for evidence of historicity.

- The New Testament retained scenarios where Jesus was cast in a bad or weak light (Acts 10:39). Someone trying to deceitfully support that Jesus was God would not have done this.
- The Gospel writers did not try to harmonize their accounts, which demonstrates they were independent witnesses.
- The writers included difficult passages in the text, something a fraudulent account would not have done (e.g., Jesus said to eat his body and drink his blood).
- They wrote self-incriminating stories without trying to hide the worst situations that occurred among apostles (e.g., Peter's denial of Jesus). Fraudulent authors would not have included these accounts.
- The writers did not deny their testimony under threat of persecution, imprisonment, or death (e.g., Peter and John were arrested and threatened for preaching Jesus in the temple precincts).
- The writers strictly distinguished their own words from Jesus' words, showing they were reporting and not creating fiction (Acts 20:35).
- The first eyewitness reports of the resurrected Jesus came from women, who, in ancient culture, did not have credible legal standing in such matters (e.g., Mary Magdalene).
- The writers said that their records were based on eyewitness testimonies (John 21:24).

99% ACCURATE

1% MOSTLY ANCIENT TYPOS



HAS HISTORY PROVED THE BIBLE TO BE TEXTUALLY RELIABLE?

OT

**DEAD SEA SCROLLS
200 BC-70 AD**

**EN-GEDI SCROLLS
3RD-4TH CENTURY AD**

95% THE SAME

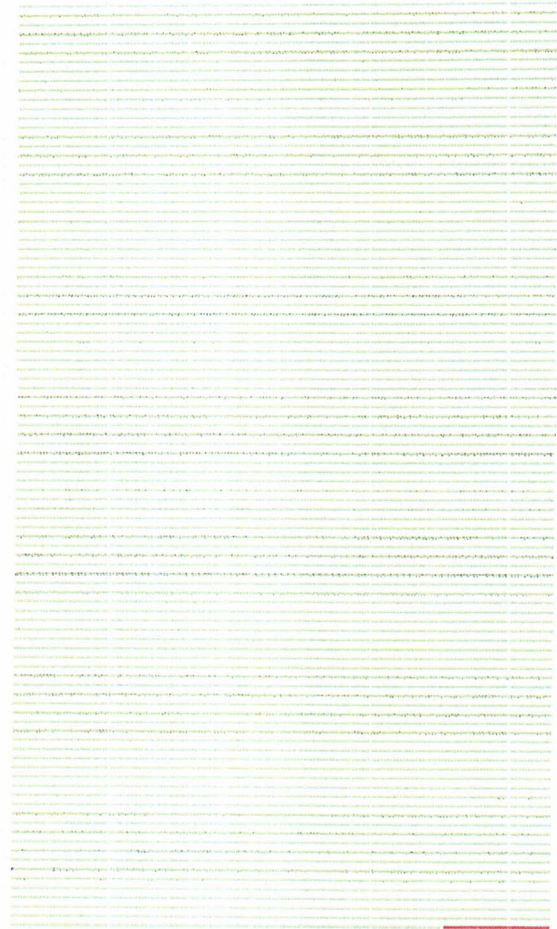
99.9% THE SAME

*The variants
in both
are obvious errors,
spelling changes
and conjunction
additions.*

**MASORETIC TEXT
1000 AD**

In a time span of over
1000 years the Old
Testament text has
remained virtually
unchanged.

NT



There are approximately 20,000
lines of text in the New Testament.
Only .2% are in doubt of being
accurate to the original text.

None of these variants affect major
belief or doctrine in any way.

LOOK for things that are...

Emphasized

Amount of space
"fairly, really"
Purpose is stated

Repeated

words phrases events
"wherefore" "so that"
"for this reason" "Q&A"
"Cause/Effect"

Related

have a connection
work off each other

Alike

"as", "like"
comparison

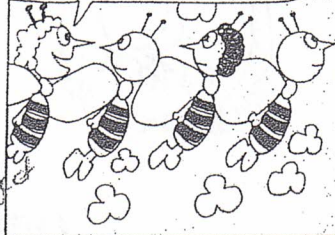
Unlike

"but"
contrast

**True
to
Life**

role of HS
as the uses the
word, circumstances
"however"
righteousness

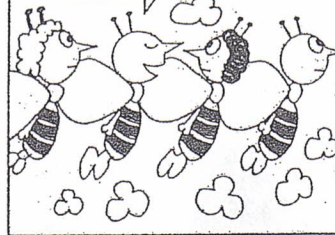
I READ A VERSE OF THE BIBLE EVERY DAY!



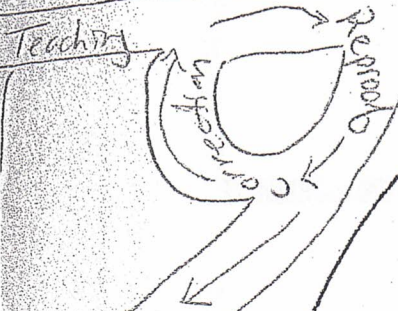
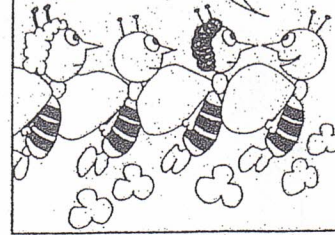
I READ A CHAPTER EVERY DAY!



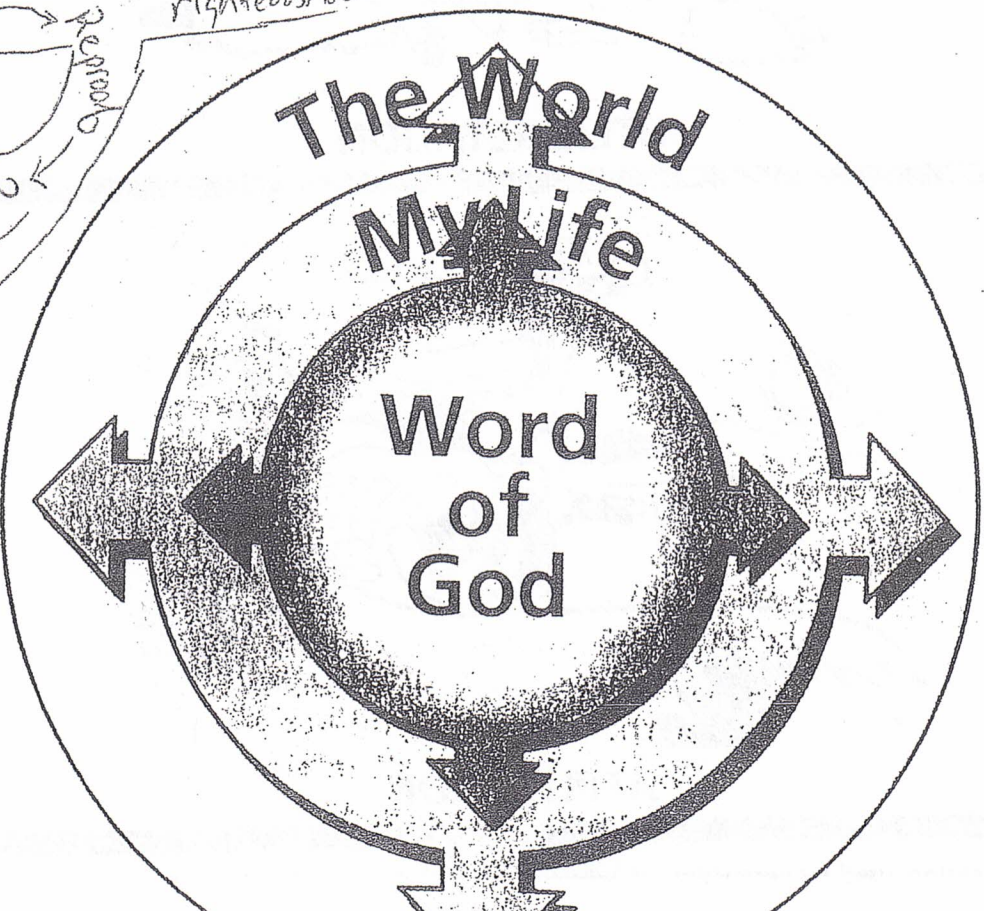
I READ TWO CHAPTERS EVERY DAY!



I APPLY IT TO MY LIFE!

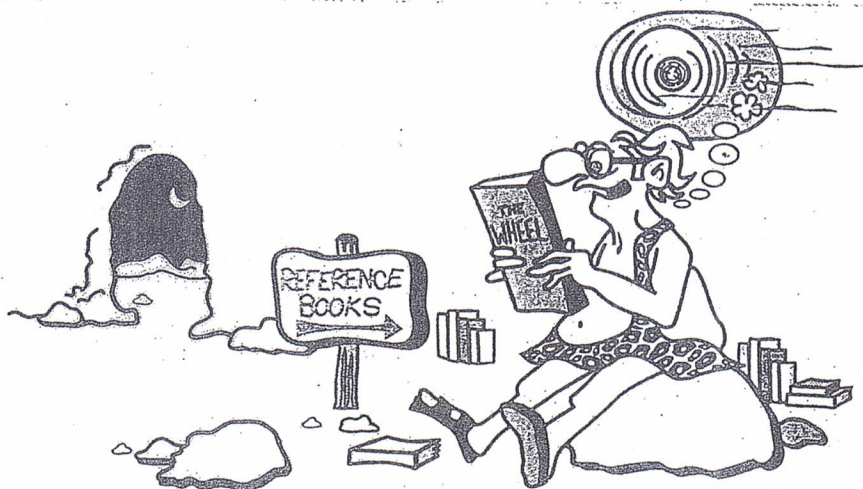


once you understand
what the word of
God teaches, you
are obligated before
God to accept
the truth and
to live by it

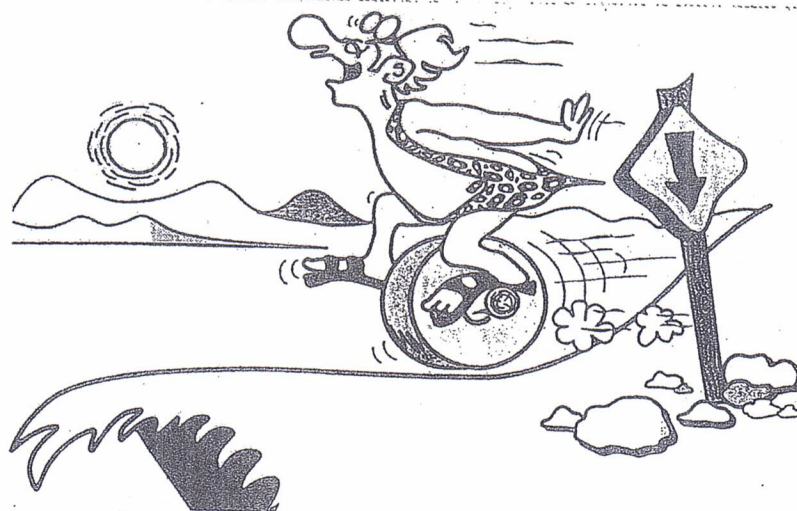




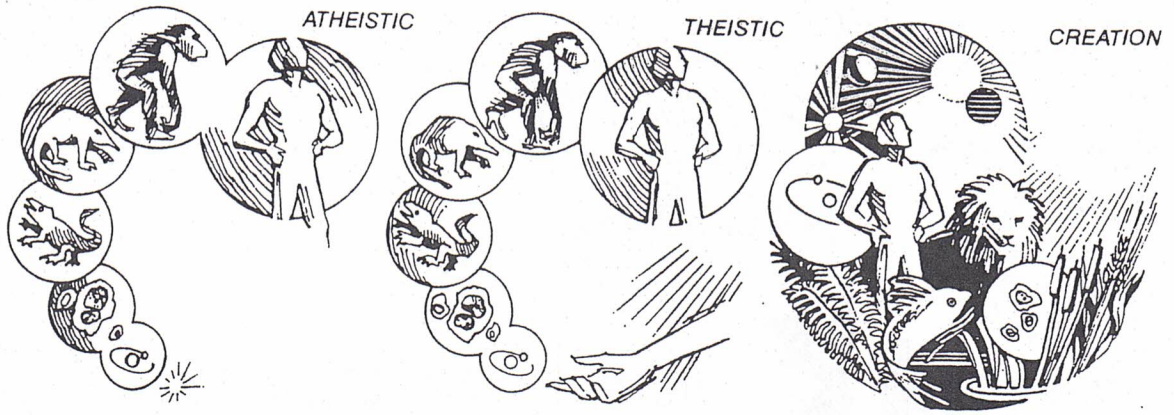
OBSERVATION



INTERPRETATION



APPLICATION



THREE VIEWS ON THE ORIGIN OF LIFE

BELIEF	ATHEISTIC MATERIALISM	THEISTIC EVOLUTION	SPECIAL CREATION
Source	Accidental arrangement of molecules	God through evolution	God in six literal days
Time	One billion years ago	One billion years ago	Less than 10,000 years
Method	Mutations	Mutations	Supernatural act from the hand of God
Purpose	No purpose	To glorify God	To glorify God
First Man	Some remote, sub-human male ape	Some remote, sub-human male ape	Adam
First Woman	Some remote sub-human female ape	Some remote sub-human female ape	Eve
View of Gen. 1-3; Rom. 5:12-21	Pure myth	Spiritual allegory	Historical fact
Proponent	Darwin and his followers	<i>Hugh Ross</i> Those who would attempt to reconcile Moses and Darwin	Moses
Reason for View	Contempt for supernatural possibility	<u>Mistaken view that evolution has been proven and must be accepted</u>	Literal interpretation of Genesis 1; 2
Problem	First law of thermodynamics, second law of thermodynamics, law of biogenesis	Cannot take at face value (Gen. 1-2; Rom. 5:12-21)	No real problem
Scriptural Proof	None	None	Gen. 1:31; 2:1-3; Ex. 20:11; 31:17; Ps. 33:6-9; I Cor. 11:8-9; 15:39; I Tim. 2:13
Scientific Support	None	None	First law of thermodynamics, second law of thermodynamics, law of biogenesis <i>At the beginning, Adam...</i> <i>- Jews</i>

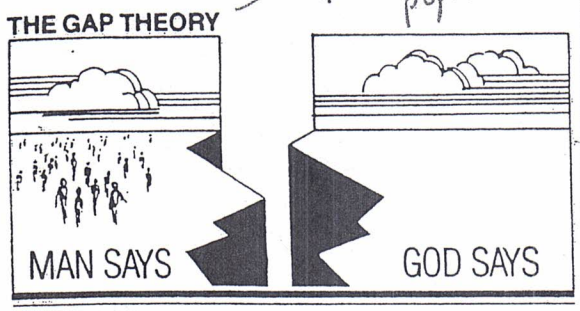
Creation Theories

THEORY	DESCRIPTION	UNDERSTANDING OF TIME	TREATMENT OF "DAY"	MAJOR PROBLEMS
24-HOUR DAY 	Views chapter 1 as sequential and literal	Most support "young earth"	24 hours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reconciling with scientific data Integrating chapters 1 & 2
DAY-AGE 	Views creation as taking place over six eras	Unlimited time available for each era	Day = age	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sequence still does not suit scientific data Difficult to substantiate author's intention as day = age Often an excuse for evolution
LITERARY APPROACH 	Views seven-day sequence as a literary structure	Narrative has nothing to say about time	Oriented toward sabbath theology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exodus 20:11 - 10 commandments concern Sabbath Difficult to preclude time significance only on basis of literary structure
PRIOR CREATION 	Suggests existence of a previous created world prior to Genesis 1	Most of scientific ages related to prior creation	24 hours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No textual support Questions of continuity in scientific record Sun/moon
TWO-PHASE 	Two distinct phases of creation in chapters 1 & 2 with long period of time in between	Gap between 2:3 and 2:4 can accommodate any time requirements	Any view possible	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> People in chapter 1 are not Adam and Eve and must be viewed as not yet morally responsible

2 Peter 3:8
"with the Lord a day is like a thousand years."
also Ps 90:4
Galaxy Theory

Show large chart

made popular by C.I. Scofield - published Scofield ref. Bible in 1909, 1917, 1967
 early 70s + '80s
 this was a more popular theory



MEANING OF • In Gen. 1:1 God created a perfect and complete universe. • Between 1:1 and 1:2 Satan's rebellion marred this perfect universe. • From 1:2 on, God remolds this sin-marred creation.

POPULARITY OF Made popular and well known by two men: • George H. Pember in 1876 • C.I. Scofield in 1917

CONSIDERATION OF Arguments FOR Gap Theory

WORDS "Without form and void" always indicate judgment. (See Isa. 34:11; 45:18; Jer. 4:23.)

FALSE. Words can often simply refer to lifelessness and empty space. (See Job 26:7; Deut. 32:10.)

VERB "Was" in 1:2 should be translated "became."

FALSE. Hebrew word *hayetha* (was) is almost always translated "was." It is used 264 times in the Pentateuch. Of these, it is translated "was" 258 times. See Jonah 3:3 for an example.

THERE IS A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN CREATED (BARA) AND MADE (ASAH)

FALSE. Words are used interchangeably. EXAMPLE:

1. GOD created (*bara*) the great sea monsters (1:21).
2. GOD made (*asah*) the beast of the earth (1:25).
3. "Let us make [*asah*] man" (1:26).
4. "So God created [*bara*] man" (1:27).

WORD "DARKNESS" INDICATES JUDGMENT. (SEE 1:2.)

FALSE. Darkness here is simply the absence of light and is sometimes spoken of as being good. (See Ps. 104:20, 24.)

WORD "REPLENISH" IN 1:28 INDICATES THE WORLD WAS ONCE FILLED.

FALSE. Hebrew word *male* almost always means simply "to fill." (See Ex. 40:34; 1Ki.18:33; Ps.107:9.)

THE THREEFOLD PROBLEM OF THE GAP THEORY

IT IS UNSCIENTIFIC

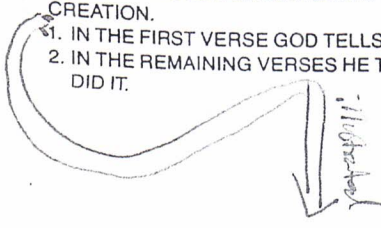
- THE GAP THEORY WAS (IN PART) A CHRISTIAN ATTEMPT TO RECONCILE THE CREATION ACCOUNT WITH THE LONG PERIODS OF TIME IN THE THEORY OF EVOLUTION.
- BUT EVOLUTION ITSELF AS A THEORY IS TOTALLY UNSCIENTIFIC, DEFYING THE SECOND LAW OF THERMODYNAMICS.

IT IS UNSCRIPTURAL

- THE GAP THEORY WOULD DESCRIBE ADAM WALKING ATOP A GIGANTIC FOSSILIZED ANIMAL GRAVEYARD.
- PAUL, HOWEVER, IN ROM. 5:12 AND 8:20-22 STATES THAT MAN'S SIN BROUGHT ABOUT DEATH, EVEN OF ANIMALS.

IT IS UNNECESSARY

- THE MOST NATURAL INTERPRETATION OF GEN. 1 AND 2 IS TAKING IT AT FACE VALUE, WITHOUT ADDITION OR SUBTRACTION.
- GEN. 1:1 THUS BECOMES A SUMMARY STATEMENT OF CREATION.
 1. IN THE FIRST VERSE GOD TELLS US WHAT HE DID.
 2. IN THE REMAINING VERSES HE TELLS US HOW HE DID IT.



"In the Beginning GOD Created the Heaven and the Earth"

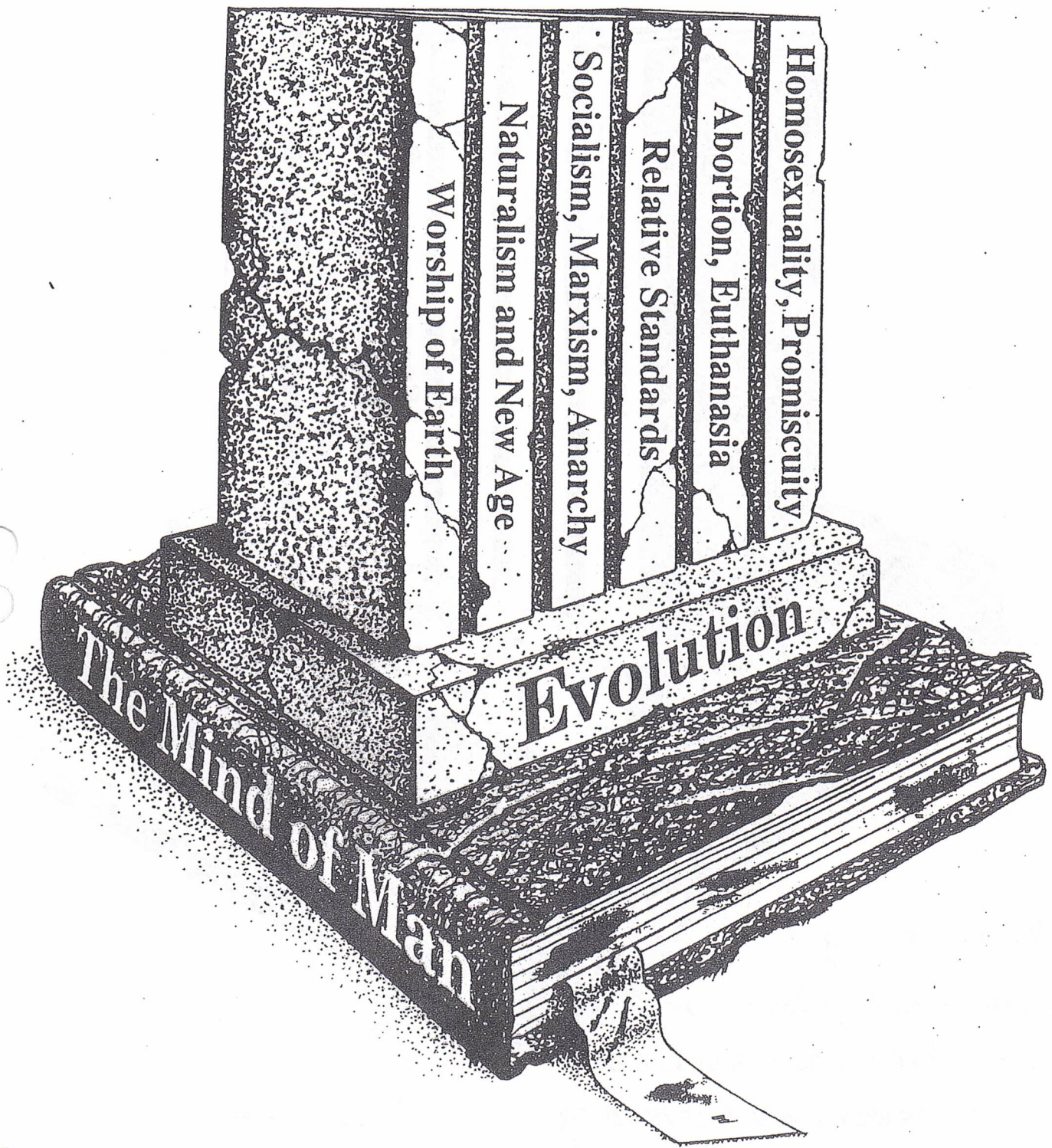
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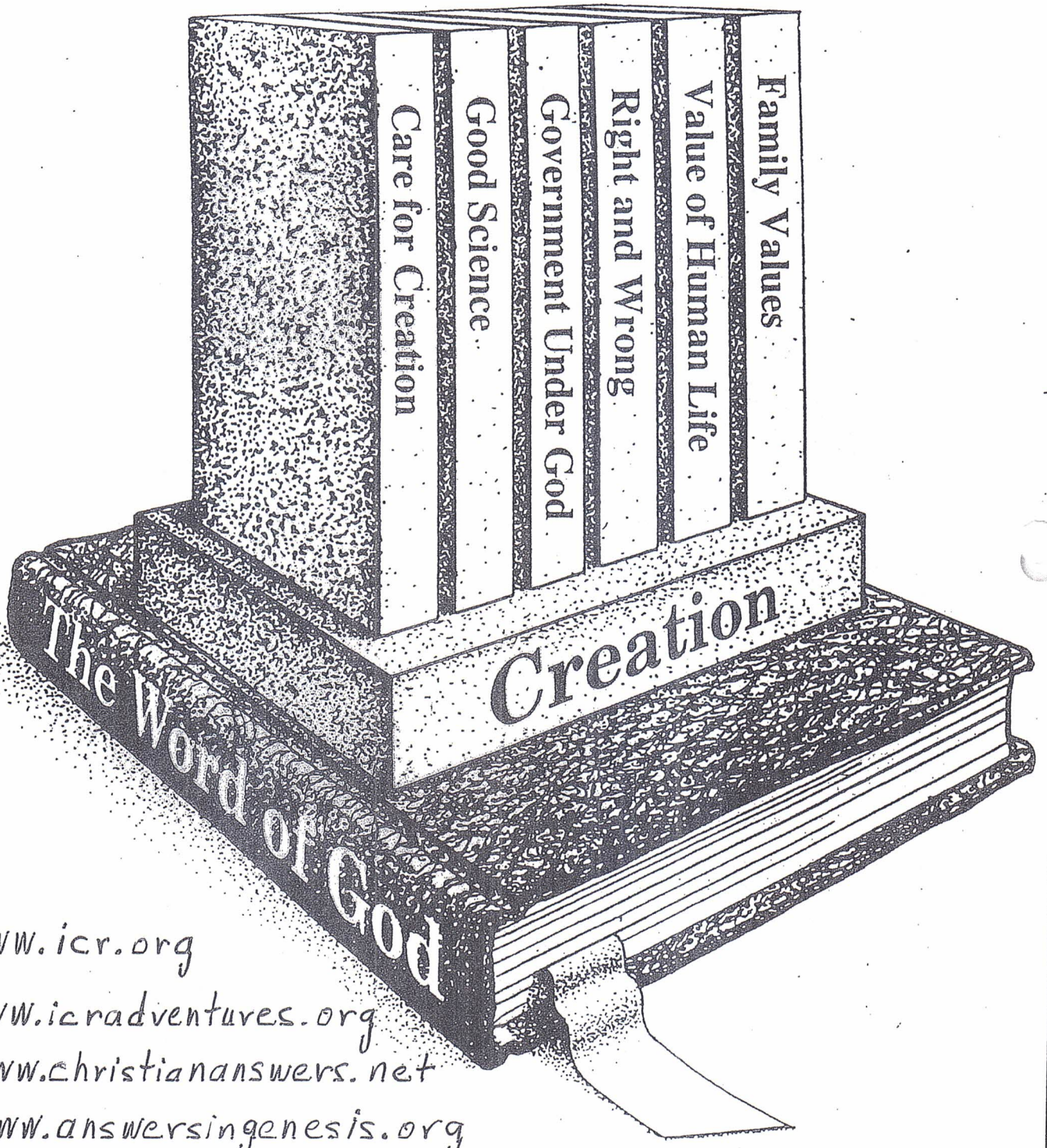
THIS IS A SUMMARIZATION STATEMENT

THIS IS A REFUTATION STATEMENT

1:1 TELLS US WHAT GOD DID.
1:2-2:25 TELLS US HOW HE DID IT.

PHILOSOPHY REFUTED	HOW REFUTED
ATHEISM	THERE IS A GOD
POLYTHEISM	THERE IS BUT ONE GOD
EVOLUTION	HE CREATED ALL THINGS
PANTHEISM	HE IS APART FROM HIS CREATION
MATERIALISM	THERE WAS A BEGINNING TO CREATION
FATALISM	THERE WAS A PURPOSE TO CREATION





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www.icradventures.org

www.christiananswers.net

www.answersingenesis.org

10 Dangers of Theistic Evolution



The *atheistic* formula for evolution is:

- Evolution = matter + evolutionary factors (chance and necessity + mutation + selection + isolation + death) + very long time periods.

In the *theistic* evolutionary view, **God** is added:

- Theistic evolution = matter + evolutionary factors (chance and necessity + mutation + selection + isolation + death) + very long time periods + God.

In the theistic evolutionary system, God is not the omnipotent Lord of all things, whose Word has to be taken seriously by all men, but He is integrated into the evolutionary philosophy. This leads to 10 dangers for Christians.¹

Danger NO. 1 ... Misrepresentation of the Nature of God

The Bible reveals God to us as our Father in Heaven, who is absolutely perfect (Matthew 5:48), holy (Isaiah 6:3), and omnipotent (Jeremiah 32:17). The Apostle John tells us that "God is love", "light", and "life" (1 John 4:16; 1:5; 1:1-2). When this God creates something, His work is described as "very good" (Genesis 1:31) and "perfect" (Deuteronomy 32:4).

Dangers of Theistic Evolution

Theistic evolution gives a false representation of the nature of God because death and ghastliness are ascribed to the Creator as principles of creation. (Progressive creationism, likewise, allows for millions of years of death and horror before sin.)

Danger NO. 2 ... God becomes a God of the Gaps

The Bible states that God is the Prime Cause of all things. "But to us there is but one God, the Father, of whom are all things ... and one Lord Jesus Christ, by whom are all things, and we by Him" (1 Corinthians 8:6).

However, in theistic evolution the only workspace allotted to God is that part of nature which evolution cannot "explain" with the means presently at its disposal. In this way He is reduced to being a "god of the gaps" for those phenomena about which there are doubts. This leads to the view that "God is therefore not absolute, but He Himself has evolved - He is evolution".²

Danger NO. 3 ... Denial of Central Biblical Teachings

The entire Bible bears witness that we are dealing with a source of truth authored by God (2 Timothy 3:16), with the Old Testament as the indispensable "ramp" leading to the New Testament, like an access road leads to a motor freeway (John 5:39). The biblical creation account should not be regarded as a myth, a parable, or an Allegory, but as a historical report, because:

- Biological, astronomical and anthropological facts are given in didactic [teaching] form.
- In the Ten Commandments God bases the six working days and one day of rest on the same time-span as that described in the creation account (Exodus 20:8-11).
- In the New Testament Jesus referred to facts of the creation (e.g. Matthew 19:4-5).
- Nowhere in the Bible are there any indications that the creation account should be understood in any other way than as a factual report.

The doctrine of theistic evolution undermines this basic way of reading the Bible, as vouched for by Jesus, the prophets and the Apostles. Events reported in the Bible are reduced to mythical imagery, and an understanding of the message of the Bible as being true in word and meaning is lost.

Danger NO. 4 ... Loss of the Way for Finding God

The Bible describes man as being completely ensnared by sin after Adam's fall (Romans 7:18-19). Only those persons who realize that they are sinful and lost will seek the Saviour who "came to save that which was lost" (Luke 19:10).

However, evolution knows no sin in the biblical sense of missing one's purpose (in relation to God). Sin is made meaningless, and that is exactly the opposite of what the Holy Spirit does - He declares sin to be sinful. If sin is seen as a harmless evolutionary factor, then one has lost the key for finding God, which is not resolved by adding "God" to the evolutionary scenario.

Danger NO. 5 ... The Doctrine of God's Incarnation is Undermined

The incarnation of God through His Son Jesus Christ is one of the basic teachings of the Bible. The Bible states that "The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us" (John 1:14), "Christ Jesus ... was made in the likeness of men" (Philippians 2:5-7).

The idea of evolution undermines this foundation of our salvation. Evolutionist Hoimar von Ditfurth discusses the incompatibility of Jesus' incarnation and evolutionary thought: "Consideration of evolution inevitably forces us to a critical review ... of Christian formulations. This clearly holds for the central Christian concept of the 'incarnation' of God ... ".³

Danger NO. 6 ... The Biblical Basis of Jesus' Work of Redemption Is Mythologized

The Bible teaches that the first man's fall into sin was a real event and that this was the direct cause of sin in the world: "Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned" (Romans 5:12).

Theistic evolution does not acknowledge Adam as the first man, nor that he was created directly from "the dust of the ground" by God (Genesis 2:17). Most theistic evolutionists regard the creation account as being merely a mythical tale, albeit with some spiritual significance. However, the sinner Adam and the Saviour Jesus are linked together in the Bible - Romans 5:16-18. Thus any view which mythologizes Adam

undermines the biblical basis of Jesus' work of redemption.

Danger NO. 7 ... Loss of Biblical Chronology

The Bible provides us with a time-scale for history and this underlies a proper understanding of the Bible. This time-scale includes:

- The time-scale cannot be extended indefinitely into the past, nor into the future. There is a well-defined beginning in Genesis 1:1, as well as a moment when physical time will end (Matthew 24:14).
- The total duration of creation was six days (Exodus 20:11).
- The age of the universe may be estimated in terms of the genealogies recorded in the Bible (but note that it can not be calculated exactly). It is of the order of several thousand years, not billions.
- Galatians 4:4 points out the most outstanding event in the world's history: "But when the fullness of the time was come, God sent forth His Son." This happened nearly 2,000 years ago.
- The return of Christ in power and glory is the greatest expected future event.

Supporters of theistic evolution (and progressive creation) disregard the biblically given measures of time in favour of evolutionist time-scales involving billions of years both past and future (for which there are no convincing physical grounds). This can lead to two errors:

1. Not all statements of the Bible are to be taken seriously.
2. Vigilance concerning the second coming of Jesus may be lost.

Danger NO. 8 ... Loss of Creation Concepts

Certain essential creation concepts are taught in the Bible. These include:

- God created matter without using any available material.
- God created the earth first, and on the fourth day He added the moon, the solar system, our local galaxy, and all other star systems. This sequence conflicts with all ideas of "cosmic evolution", such as the "big bang" cosmology.

Theistic evolution ignores all such biblical creation principles and replaces them with evolutionary notions, thereby contradicting and opposing God's omnipotent acts of creation.

Danger NO. 9 ... Misrepresentation of Reality

The Bible carries the seal of truth, and all its pronouncements are authoritative - whether they deal with questions of faith and salvation, daily living, or matters of scientific importance.

Evolutionists brush all this aside, e.g. Richard Dawkins says, "Nearly all peoples have developed their own creation myth, and the Genesis story is just the one that happened to have been adopted by one particular tribe of Middle Eastern herders. It has no more special status than the belief of a particular West African tribe that the world was created from the excrement of ants".⁴

If evolution is false, then numerous sciences have embraced false testimony. Whenever these sciences conform with evolutionary views, they

misrepresent reality. How much more then a theology which departs from what the Bible says and embraces evolution!

Danger NO. 10 ... Missing the Purpose

In no other historical book do we find so many and such valuable statements of purpose for man as in the Bible. For example:

1. Man is God's purpose in creation (Genesis 1:27-28).
2. Man is the purpose of God's plan of redemption (Isaiah 53:5).
3. Man is the purpose of the mission of God's Son (1 John 4:9).
4. We are the purpose of God's inheritance (Titus 3:7).
5. Heaven is our destination (1 Peter 1:4).

However, the very thought of purposefulness is anathema to evolutionists. "Evolutionary adaptations never follow a purposeful program, they thus can not be regarded as teleonomical."⁵ Thus a belief system such as theistic evolution that marries purposefulness with non-purposefulness is a contradiction in terms.

CONCLUSION

The doctrines of creation and evolution are so strongly divergent that reconciliation is totally impossible. The theistic evolutionists attempt to integrate the two doctrines; however such syncretism reduces the message of the Bible to insignificance. The conclusion is inevitable: There is no support for theistic evolution in the Bible.

REFERENCES

1. This article has been adapted from chapter 8, "The Consequences of Theistic Evolution", from Dr. Werner Gitt's book, *Did God use Evolution?*, Christliche Literatur-Verbreitung e.V., Postfach 11 01 35 . 33661, Bielefeld, Germany.
2. E. Jantsch, *Die Selbstorganisation des Universums*, Munchen, 1979, p. 412.
3. Hoimar von Ditfurth, *Wir sind nicht nur von dieser Welt*, Munchen, 1984, pp. 21-22.
4. Richard Dawkins, *The Blind Watchmaker*, Penguin Books, London, 1986, p. 316.
5. H. Penzlin, Das Teleologie-Problem in der Biologie, *Biologische Rundschau*, 25 (1987), S.7-26, p. 19.

WHAT DOES THEISTIC EVOLUTION INVOLVE?*

* This section is adapted from Werner Gitt's, *Did God Use Evolution?*, pp. 13-16, 24.

The following evolutionary assumptions are generally applicable to theistic evolution:

- The basic principle, evolution, is taken for granted.
- It is believed that evolution is a universal principle.
- As far as scientific laws are concerned, there is no difference between the origin of the earth and all life and its subsequent development (the principle of uniformity).
- Evolution relies on processes that allow increases in organization from the simple to the complex, from non-life to life, and from lower to higher forms of life.

- The driving forces of evolution are mutation, selection, isolation, and mixing. Chance and necessity, long time epochs, ecological changes, and death are additional indispensable factors.
- The time line is so prolonged that anyone can have as much time as he/she likes for the process of evolution.
- The present is the key to the past.
- There was a smooth transition from non-life to life.
- Evolution will persist into the distant future.

In addition to these evolutionary assumptions, three additional beliefs apply to theistic evolution:

1. God used evolution as a means of creating.
2. The Bible contains no usable or relevant ideas which can be applied in present-day origins science.
3. Evolutionistic pronouncements have priority over biblical statements. The Bible must be reinterpreted when and wherever it contradicts the present evolutionary world view.

PROFESSOR WERNER GITT

received his doctorate summa cum laude, together with the prestigious Borchers Medal, from the Technical University of Aachen, Germany, in 1970. He is now Director and Professor at the German Federal Institute of Physics (Physikalisch-Technische Bundesanstalt). He has written numerous scientific papers in the field of information science, numerical mathematics, and control engineering, as well as several popular books, some of which have been translated into Bulgarian, Czech, English, Finnish, French, Hungarian, Italian, Polish and Russian.

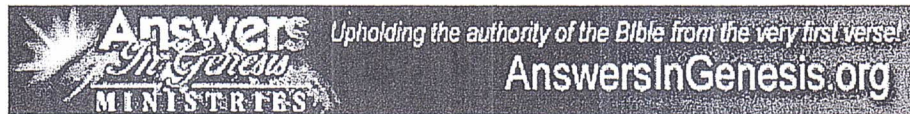
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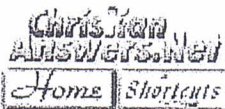
Author: Werner Gitt, *Creation Magazine*, Sep-Nov
1995, Vol. 17, No. 4, pp. 49-51.

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DOES MY WORLDVIEW REALLY MATTER?

YOUR CREATION WORLDVIEW AFFECTS HOW YOU ANSWER LIFE'S BIGGEST QUESTIONS

DO I BELIEVE IN A SUPERNATURAL PERSONAL CREATOR?

YES

NO

WHERE DO I COME FROM?

I WAS CREATED SPECIFICALLY BY GOD WHO KNEW ME BEFORE I WAS BORN.

I AM A PRODUCT OF RANDOM NATURAL CAUSES, AND AM MOST LIKELY DESCENDED FROM PRIMATES.

WHY AM I HERE?

I AM HERE TO GLORIFY GOD AND ENJOY HIM FOREVER.

SINCE THERE IS NO OVERARCHING PURPOSE TO EXISTENCE, I MUST CREATE MY OWN MEANING & MORALITY

WHERE AM I GOING WHEN I DIE?

I WILL DWELL IN THE HOUSE OF THE LORD FOREVER.

I WILL CEASE TO EXIST.

WHO AM I & WHAT AM I WORTH?

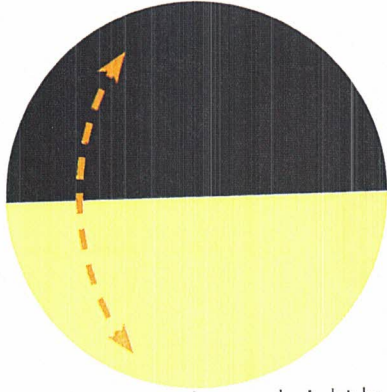
I AM A CHILD OF GOD. I AM SO VALUED THAT HE SENT HIS SON TO DIE IN MY PLACE SO THAT HE COULD HAVE A RELATIONSHIP WITH ME.

IN THE GRAND SCHEME OF THINGS I'M WORTHLESS. I'M JUST A HIGHLY FUNCTIONING PIECE OF PROTOPLASM TAKING UP SPACE AND WAITING TO DIE.

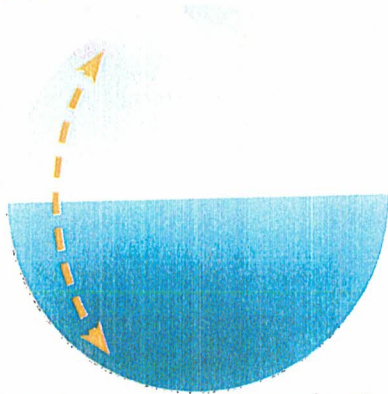
Days of Creation

Genesis 1:1-2:3

Days of Forming



Day 1: God creates day and night by dividing light from the darkness.



Day 2: God creates the sky and waters by separating the waters.

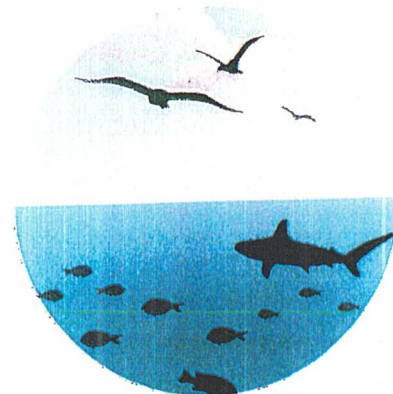


Day 3: God creates the seas and dry land by gathering the waters together. God makes vegetation to grow on the land.

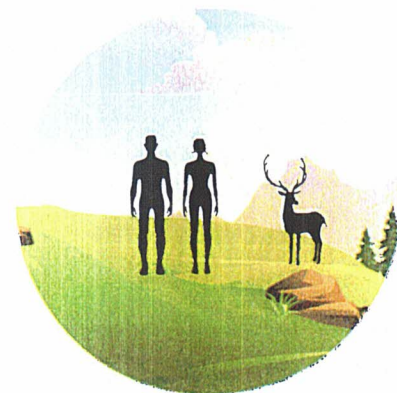
Days of Filling



Day 4: God creates the sun, moon, and stars to fill the day and the night.



Day 5: God creates birds to fill the skies and fish to fill the seas.



Day 6: God creates animals and humans to fill the land.

Day 7: God rests on the seventh day and blesses it and makes it holy.

Key *Crystal* Chapters in the Bible
GENESIS 1-11: "IN THE BEGINNING..."
GOD *reshiyth or resit* *Gen 1-11* *Hebrew word*



CREATION

ORIGIN OF ALL THINGS—GEN. 1-2

- SIX DAYS OF CREATION
- ONE DAY OF REST



CORRUPTION

SIN OF ADAM—GEN. 3-5

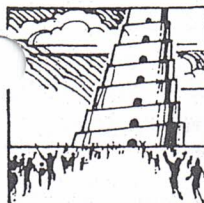
- SUBTLETY OF SATAN
- SIN OF ADAM
- REDEMPTION OF GOD
- MARTYRDOM OF ABEL
- MINISTRY OF ENOCH



CONDEMNATION

FLOOD OF NOAH—GEN. 6-9

- CONDITIONS BEFORE THE FLOOD
- SALVATION THROUGH THE FLOOD
- THE TRAGEDY AFTER THE FLOOD



CONFUSION

TOWER OF BABEL—GEN. 10-11

- THE ARROGANCE OF MAN
- THE JUDGMENT OF GOD
- THE ORIGIN OF NATIONS

First Heaven—home of the birds and clouds.

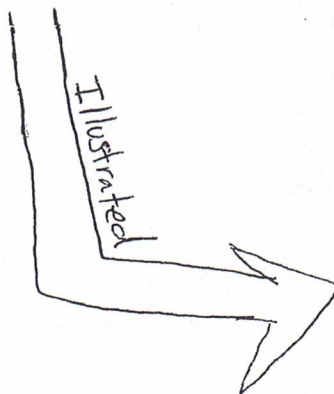
"The leaves thereof were fair, and the fruit thereof much, and in it was meat for all: the beasts of the field had shadow under it, and the fowls of the heaven dwelt in the boughs thereof, and all flesh was fed of it" (Dan. 4:12).

"Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they?" (Mt. 6:26).

Second Heaven—home of the sun, moon, and stars.

"The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handiwork" (Ps. 19:1).

Third Heaven—home of the angels and departed saints.



-DAYS-

THE DAYS OF CREATION

THE LENGTH OF THESE DAYS

QUESTION: ARE THESE LITERAL TWENTY-FOUR-HOUR DAYS?

ANSWER: YES, BECAUSE:

1. THE NUMERICAL ADJECTIVE USED WITH THE WORD "DAY" (HEBREW YOM) INDICATES THIS.
2. MOSES BELIEVED IT (EX. 20:11; 31:17)
3. DAVID BELIEVED IT (PS. 33:6-9)
4. MOST HEBREW LANGUAGE SCHOLARS BELIEVE IT.
5. HEBREW STRUCTURE ITSELF SEEMS TO TEACH IT.

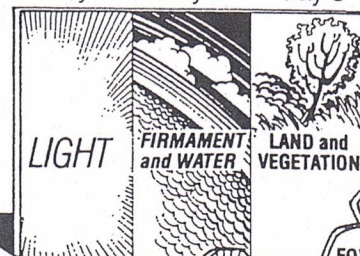
THE CORRELATION OF THESE DAYS

FIRST THREE DAYS PROVIDE THE BACKDROP FOR THE CREATION DRAMA

LAST THREE DAYS PROVIDE THE ACTUAL ACTORS IN THE CREATION DRAMA

THE BACKDROP

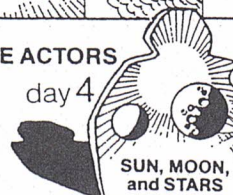
day 1 day 2 day 3



GOD FORMS

THE ACTORS

day 4



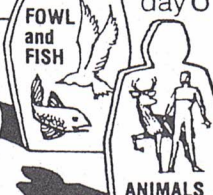
day 5

FOWL and FISH



day 6

ANIMALS and MAN



GOD FILLS

THE THREE HEAVENS OF CREATION

(See Gen. 1:1; 2:1)

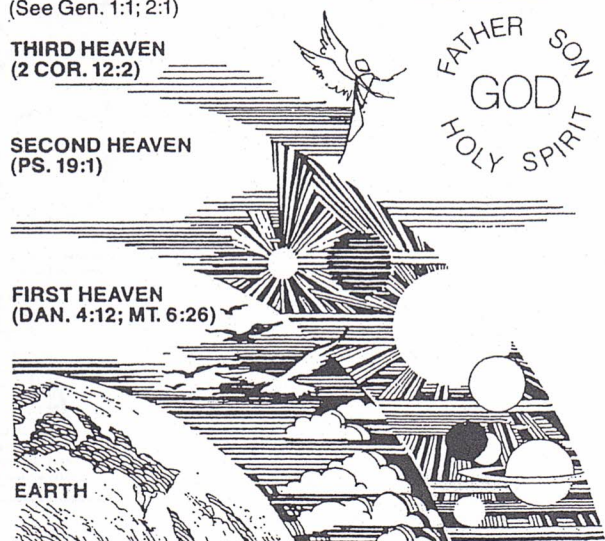
THIRD HEAVEN
(2 COR. 12:2)

FATHER SON
 GOD
 HOLY SPIRIT

SECOND HEAVEN
(PS. 19:1)

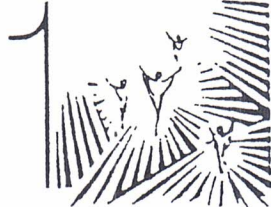
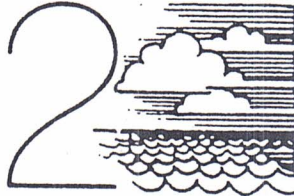

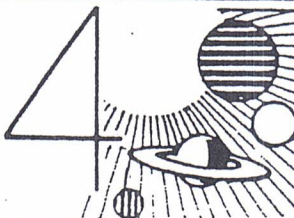


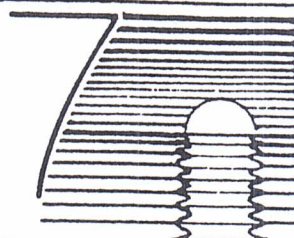
FIRST HEAVEN
(DAN. 4:12; MT. 6:26)

EARTH



THE CREATION WEEK

Read Gen 1:1

DAY	ACTION	COMMENT
1	 <p>CREATION of earth, light and probably angels</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Created universe now energized. • Earth's rotation on its axis begins. • Gravitational electro-magnetic and nuclear force fields now in effect.
2	 <p>SEPARATION of the upper and lower waters by space</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upper atmosphere may have had more water vapor than today. • Would help explain longevity before the flood. • Would help explain the flood itself.
3	 <p>CREATION of plant life</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Totally refutes theistic evolution. • Darwin said life began in ancient ocean. • MOSES said it began on dry ground.
4	 <p>CREATION of the sun, moon, and stars</p>	<p>Why was the EARTH created before the SUN?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TO SHOW GOD'S PRIORITY. • To prevent sun worship.
5	 <p>CREATION of fish and fowl</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Included the tiny hummingbird. • Included the mighty blue whale.
6	 <p>CREATION of land animals and man</p>	<p>Included all land animals from the dog to the dinosaur</p> <p><i>Dinosaurs + man created on the same day</i></p>
7	 <p>CREATION COMPLETED. GOD RESTS</p> <p><i>from activity of creation</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The seventh day now becomes a symbol of a finished creation. • <u>The only time God is pictured as resting.</u> <p><i>Ps 121 - God does not slumber nor sleep</i></p>