

Year 2 Class 3 Session A Notes

Defending Biblical Creation

There is confusion in the church on the subject of origins – a recent survey among protestant pastors indicates that most deny that God used evolution ,and affirm that Adam and Eve were real people but – there is almost an even split between pastors who think the universe is around 6,000 years old (what the Bible clearly teaches) and billions of years.

“For if the trumpet give an uncertain sound, who shall prepare himself to the battle?”

1 Corinthians 14:8

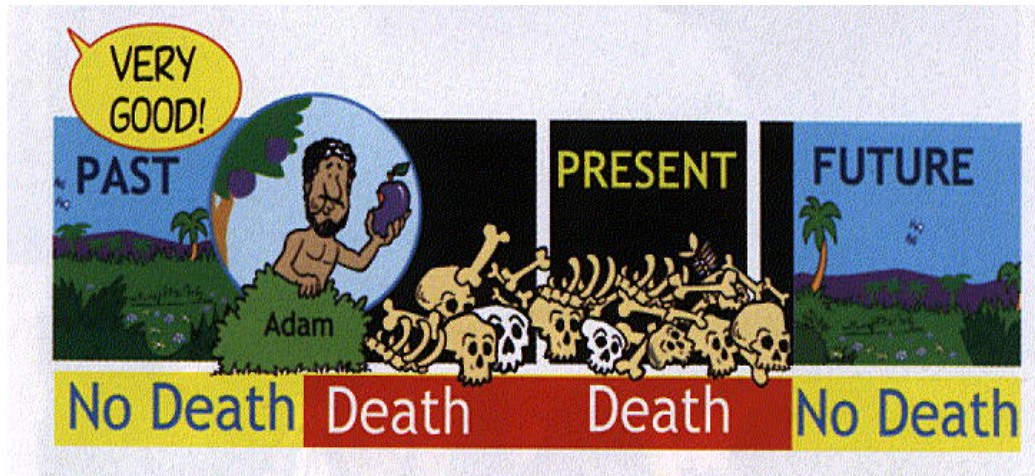
Trick questions:

What are some prehistoric animals? What types of tools were used in the stone age? Did kangaroos live in the Middle East? Answers (From a biblical perspective): There is no such thing as ‘prehistory’, there was no ‘stone age’, and kangaroos must have lived in the Middle East because that is where they got off of Noah’s ark.

Bible History:

- God created in 6 literal days
- All was perfect
- Our first parents rebelled against God
- Brought sin and death into the world
- God judged the world with a flood
- Nations born after the flood
- God creates Israel from which Jesus the Messiah is born
- Jesus dies for the sins of the world and is resurrected
- Jesus will return and restore the world

“...and that He may send Jesus Christ who was preached to you before, whom heaven must receive until the times of restoration of all things...” Acts 3:21 (Also see Matthew 19:28 and Isaiah 11)



The above image is from www.answersingenesis.org. It shows perfectly real earth and human history according to the Bible

The Evolution Story

Popularized in 1859 by Charles Darwin – who got his ideas about long ages from Charles Lyell

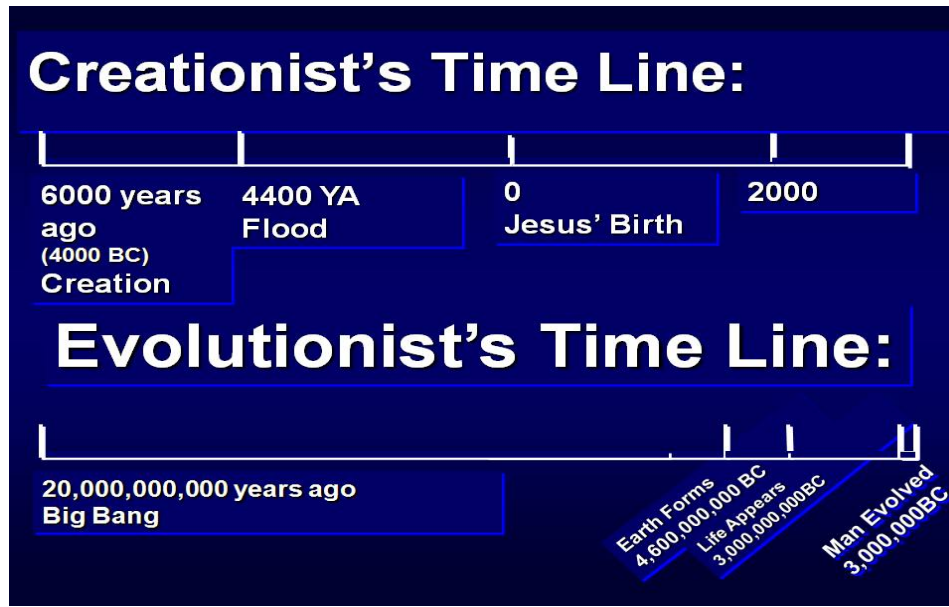
“His [Lyell’s] major contribution was proving that all features of the Earth’s surface were produced by natural forces operating for long times. His strong arguments that the Earth’s crust was the product of thousands of millions of years of activity did away with the need for unscientific explanations based on the Biblical record”. Excerpted from Compton’s Interactive Encyclopedia, 1996

“Yet it was to Lyell that Darwin owed much of the information that was the basis of his own work.” Excerpted from Compton’s Interactive Encyclopedia. 1996

Darwin saw varieties among living kinds (i.e. finches) and felt that extrapolation was justified – that is, he felt that given enough time, minor changes could add up to major changes; that one kind of plant or animal could eventually evolve into a fundamentally different kind.

Darwin’s ideas have been brought over into all areas of science – including cosmology; now many believe the cosmos itself evolved from nothing

Evolution and creation are so utterly different that they cannot be reasonably reconciled:



Darwin made it possible to reject God as the creator:

"Darwin made it possible to be an intellectually fulfilled atheist." - Richard Dawkins

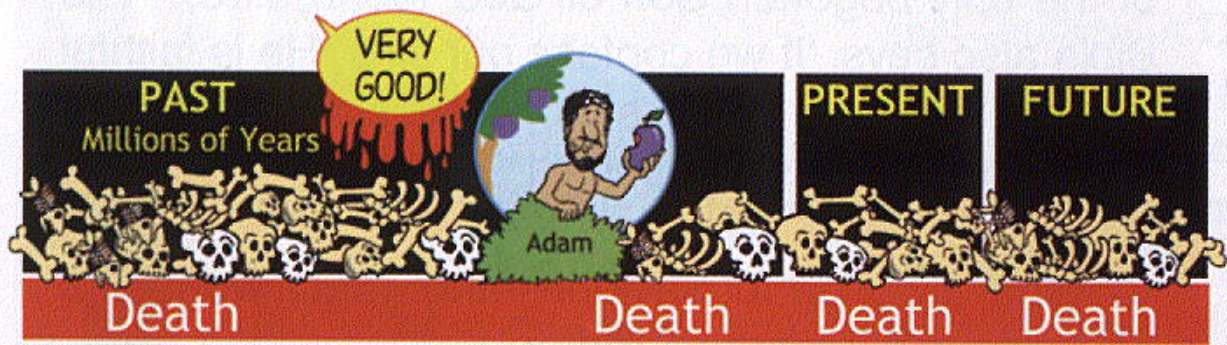
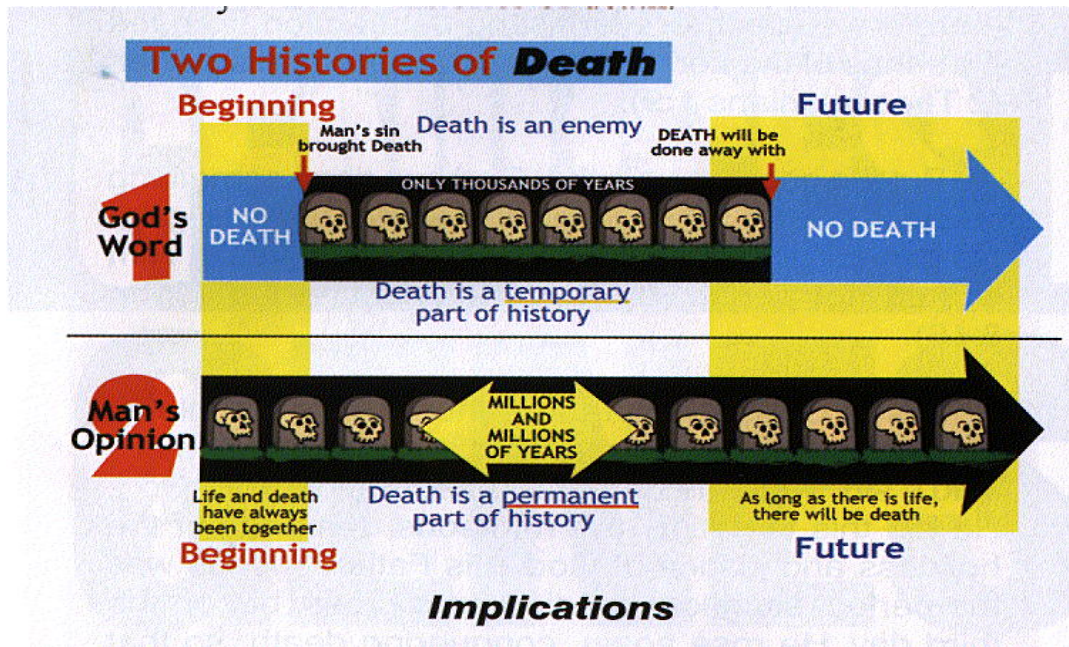
This explains why the evolution has super-saturated the thinking of the western world – it given people an excuse for non-belief.

Problem: Old Age views of the cosmos are now respectable and the biblical timeline is thought of as mythology by mainstream science. The church has adopted this view:

"From a superficial reading of Genesis 1, the impression received is that the entire creative process took place in six twenty-four hour days. If this was the true intent of the Hebrew author ...this seems to run counter to modern scientific research, which indicates that the planet Earth was created several billion years ago." Gleason Archer "A Survey of Old Testament Introduction", 1964, 15th printing, 1980, p. 181

Dangers in looking to secular science in order to understand our Bible: Scientists tell us that miracles such as the virgin birth and the resurrection are impossible

Major problem with adopting the old-earth/evolution view: It puts death before sin. The bible tells us that death entered the world through Adam's sin (Romans 5:12). Therefore the fossils (which are dead things) cannot be older than human kind.



Images from www.answeringenesis.org. God pronounced His creation “very good” at the end of creation week. If the old-earth view is correct, God declared a world full of death, suffering and bloodshed “very good.”

Who should we believe: the theologians or the anthropologists?

Answer: Neither! Look to the word of God for our answers:

“It is better to trust in the LORD than to put confidence in man.” Psalm 118:8

“The LORD knoweth the thoughts of man, that they are vanity.” Psalm 94:11

“Thus saith the LORD; Cursed be the man that trusteth in man, and maketh flesh his arm, and whose heart departeth from the LORD.” Jeremiah 17:5

10 Reasons not to Reinterpret Genesis:

1. No part of the Bible can be trusted
2. God is needlessly cruel
3. Adam's strange dominion
4. The Flood: Only Local? (long-age views cannot accept a global flood) Note:
 - Described as global 30 times (Gen 6-9)
 - Lasted 371 days!
 - The ark was HUGE
 - Rainbow promise?
 - Compared to coming GLOBAL judgment (Matthew 24, 2 Peter 3)
5. Order of creation reversed
6. The cross nullified
7. Restored to death?
8. Is God deceptive?
9. God can't communicate?
10. Is the New Testament in error?