

W.E.C. #3 – Biblical Metaphysics vs Evolutionary Metaphysics

Theology – the study of _____?

Philosophy – the attempt to construct, define, and defend a _____?

Worldview – an overall understanding of how _____?

The tree building blocks of a worldview:

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Biblical Metaphysics (Description of Reality)

- Not myth / fable / medieval superstition / religion /
- **Genesis 1:1** – *In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth*
 - Who already was in existence at the beginning?
 - Who is the only one who was there and able to explain what happened?
 - What three things did God create here in verse 1?
- **Genesis 1:2** – *The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And **the Spirit of God** was hovering over the face of the waters*
- **John 1:1-3** – *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God. ³ All things were made through him, and without him was not anything made that was made*
 - Who already existed in the beginning?
 - We now have 2 people
 - The Word was (ἦν) in the beginning
 - This is in the imperfect tense in the Greek
 - It indicates a continual existence
 - *In the beginning the Word was in continual existence*
 - Referring to the eternity of Christ
 - The Word was with (πρὸς) God
 - Face to face with God / Toward God / Looking at one another
 - What does this tell us about the relationship between Christ and the Father?

- God is Triune (Matthew 28:19): Significance –
- God is Infinite (Romans 1:20): Significance –
- God is Personal (Genesis 1:26–27): Significance –

Evolutionary Metaphysics (Description of Reality)

- Cosmological Evolution
 - Time / space / matter
- Chemical Evolution
 - The evolution of the different chemicals and elements found in the universe
 - Example – Periodic table of the elements
- Planetary and Stellar Evolution
 - Stars / planets / galaxies
- Organic Evolution
 - Life – living vs non-living
 - Personality
 - Consciousness – self-awareness – mind-body relations
 - Feeling / thought / language / communication
- Macro Evolution
 - The transition from one kind of species to another kind
 - Example – Fish to amphibian to reptile to mammal
- Micro Evolution
 - Variations within the same kind of species
 - Example – The different sizes and shapes of beaks on birds

When evolution is taught in school, microevolution is what gets the attention

- Microevolution – evolutionary change within a species over a short period of time
 - Example – Darwin’s observation of the different sized beaks on finches
- Christians admit that animals have the capacity for small changes
 - We don’t call this evolution
 - We call it adaptation
 - The animal doesn’t evolve anything new
 - It already existed, it just changes in size or shape
 - Example: Dog / Coyote / Wolf

- Microevolution is not evolution
 - No new information or species is created
 - It is simply the re-arranging of already existing information
 - With Darwin's finches:
 - They are all still finches
 - They all still have beaks
 - Nothing new has been evolved

The problem with the way evolution is taught is that it is not fully defined

- You do not start with microevolution
- You start with cosmic evolution

Cosmic Evolution – the evolution of time / space / matter

- Nothing can evolve without it
- Question – has anyone ever witnessed the evolution of time / space / or matter?
 - How does time evolve?
 - How does space evolve?
 - How does matter evolve?
 - If you believe in evolution – you have to believe it comes from nothing
 - If you don't have cosmic evolution first
 - Nothing can exist
 - Where did it come from?
 - How can time / space / matter evolve on its own?
- So – is the belief in cosmic evolution scientific or faith based?

Planetary Evolution – the evolution of the planets and the stars

- Has anyone ever observed this taking place?
- Have we ever witnessed a planet evolving?
- Have we ever witnessed a star evolving?
 - No – they were already here
- So how did they come into existence?
 - If you believe in evolution = they came from nothing
 - This can't be known for sure because it has never been observed
 - Rationally – it would be impossible for a planet or a star to evolve on its own

- So – is the belief in planetary evolution scientific or faith based?

Chemical Evolution – the evolution of the elements

- Remember the periodic table of elements in science class at school
- Has anyone ever observed an element evolving?
- Not combining with other existing elements
 - But evolving = a new element randomly coming into existence
 - The answer – no
 - If elements have never been observed to do this
- So – is chemical evolution scientific or faith based?

Organic Evolution – the origin of life

- What is life?
- Where does life come from?
- Why do things die?
- How does something that is not alive bring forth something that is alive
- How does something material, like a rock, evolve into something that is living?
 - Has anyone ever observed this taking place in nature? = no
- So – is organic evolution scientific or faith based?

Macro Evolution – the evolution from one species to another

- Examples: from a fish to amphibian to reptile to people
- Has this ever been observed taking place in nature?
- Do we have any “transitional fossils” that show us this happened in the past?
- Has one species ever been seen evolving into another species? = no
- Macroevolution is also taught in schools
 - But the examples given are drawings – The Ascent of Man
 - Not actual pictures or fossils documented evidence
 - It comes from someone’s imagination
 - Not from nature
- So – Is macroevolution scientific or faith based?
- Biochemist John K.G. Kramer (PhD) – *No one has ever demonstrated macroevolutionary changes on a molecular level, yet many people readily speculate evolutionary links*

between bacteria, plants, animals, and man. If macro-evolution is unlikely on a molecular level, how can the whole be changed? Endless DNA sequence comparisons do not explain evolutionary development. Furthermore, the changes (mutations) observed on a molecular level, such as DNA, are predominantly disruptive, and always with loss of, not gain in, information and complexity. (In Six Days, Page 47)

Micro Evolution – the variations within the same kind of species

- Example – Darwin’s finches
- Christians admit this takes place in nature
 - No new animals or evolved
 - No new information is being produced
- Example – Dog / Coyote / Wolf
 - Not – single cell organism / fish / reptile / man

When evolution is fully defined, from start to finish, it becomes obvious why schools start with microevolution

- Because it is the only one that exists
 - We do see small amounts of change within a species
 - But again – this is not evolution
 - It is adaptation
 - The information for the animal to adapt already exists within them
 - Nothing new has evolved
- The other five definitions of evolution
 - It cannot be verified by science
 - It has never been observed or tested
 - The conclusion – evolution is **faith based** = it is a **belief system**
 - Now to be fair – Christianity is also faith based = a belief system
 - We put our faith in God creating the universe
- Both evolution and creation are belief systems
 - This is not a debate *between science and religion*
 - It is a debate *between one system of faith versus another*
- I have no problem believing an all-powerful God can create us
 - I have a serious problem believing everything we see came from nothing