

Sunday Sermon 042212

## The Pagan Religion of Millions of Years

Creation Sunday - April 22, 2012

The word pagan is often used to refer to one who is non-Christian in belief. It is most commonly used in reference to those engaged in polytheistic religions. The word also encompasses those who engage in non-Christian practices like witchcraft and the occult world. As well, it certainly can be used to reference other departures from God as Creator. In our day the belief in millions of years attempts to explain life without a personal Creator to whom we are accountable. Such unbelief needs to be confronted as the false religious system that it is. In this message, I would like to clearly show you the religious nature of evolution/millions of years. Then I would like to point out why the church must not compromise with this mythical teaching.

Here is something to think about . . . (Earth Day Slide) Watch out for that!!

### Slide 2

Evolution is a philosophical belief system about the past. It is clearly built upon *assumptions* that are outside the realm of observational science. Therefore, it is *religious* in nature and should never be equated with science!

(comment before next slide)

Evolutionists persist with their theory based upon the *assumption* that long ago in the unknowable past some kind of chemical reaction occurred that resulted in the first living cell. According to their embellished story, supposedly from just one instance when life *spontaneously generated* from nonliving matter all plant life and animal life was able to evolve! Such a position is clearly a *belief system* about the past that is not consistent with what we know to be true. (the law of biogenesis)

Evolutionists would have you believe, as the late Dr. Henry Morris put it, that “*unknown chemicals in the primordial past . . . through . . . unknown processes which no longer exist . . . produced unknown life forms which are not to be found but could through . . . unknown reproduction methods spawn new life . . . in an . . . unknown atmospheric composition . . . in an . . . unknown oceanic soup complex . . . at an . . . unknown time and place*”\* and thus explains the origin of life!!

I trust you see the folly of such reasoning. But just as importantly, I trust you see that this is a **belief system about the past** that should NOT be misconstrued as science! Actually, known science does not support this myth!

### Slide 3

Observational science clearly demonstrates the utter impossibility of molecules to man evolution. Those who cling to evolution in spite of the known facts of science do so with an incredible, fanatical, and irrational religious fervor!

### Slide 4

The case against evolution is summed up by Berkeley University law professor Philip Johnson, who makes the following points:

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- (1) evolution is grounded not on scientific fact, but on a philosophical belief called naturalism;
- (2) the belief that a large body of empirical evidence supports evolution is an illusion;

### Slide 6

(3) evolution is itself a religion; (4) if evolution were a scientific hypothesis based on a rigorous study of the evidence, it would have been abandoned long ago. (*Philip E. Johnson, Darwin on Trial/Washington, DC:Regency Gateway, 1991*)

### Slide 7

Evolution is not based upon the scientific method (open mindedness, readiness to accept new facts, a desire to make careful observations, coming to proper conclusions based upon data drawn from repeatable and observable tests). It is therefore a *faith system*.

## Slide 8

Of course, this means it is just as “religious” as special creation! The debate over origins is not one of “science” versus “religion.” Rather, it is a choice between two opposite faith systems!!

## Slide 9

The debate should be in terms of which faith system is actually supported by real, observational science. Or stated another way, *which faith system is true to the way things are!!*

## Slide 10

A faith system that constantly contradicts the known facts of real science is not rational. It should be rejected as simple myth.

## Slide 11

Such is the case with the empty rhetoric of evolution, which masquerades as science when in reality not one shred of real scientific data exists to support its claims!

## Slide 12

It may surprise you to understand why so many continue to embrace the theory of evolution, in spite of its obvious deficiencies.

Dr. Richard Lewontin, a geneticist and leading promoter of evolutionary thought, sums it up this way:

## Slide 13

*“We take the side of science . . . in spite of the tolerance of the scientific community for unsubstantiated just-so stories, because we have a prior commitment, a commitment to materialism.*

## Slide 14

*It is not that the methods and institutions of science somehow compel us to accept a material explanation of the phenomenal world,*

## Slide 15

*but, on the contrary, that we are forced by our “a priori” adherence to material causes . . . Moreover, that materialism is an absolute, for we **cannot allow a Divine Foot in the door***

## Slide 16

(emphasis mine; Richard Lewontin, “Billions and Billions of Demons,” The New York Review, January 9, 1997, p. 31).

It is essential that you understand the difference between observational science and historical science. The scientific method has produced much knowledge that benefits us all. All Christians accept the knowledge gained from the scientific method. In fact, some of the greatest scientists who have ever lived were committed Biblical creationists. It is not the conclusions of observational science that Bible believing Christians take issue with. As a matter of fact, real science confirms the Bible over and over again. Rather, the issue of concern centers around “historical science.” Historical science consists of interpreting evidence in the present based on a presupposed philosophical point of view of the past.

I admit that I believe the Bible’s historical record concerning origins. I have a starting point. It would be refreshing if all those who claim to be scientific would carefully explain to their students, or readers, etc. that they also have a bias. They choose not to believe in God BEFORE they ever examine the evidence. They have a presupposed philosophical point of view. In fact, as Dr. Lewontin pointed out, it doesn’t matter to them what the evidence says, they refuse to let a divine foot in the door! Listen, if you want to embrace the religion of Naturalism that is your

prerogative, but don't declare creationism to be religious while in the same breath denying the fact that you are also involved in religion!!

Now, let me move on to talk about the obvious correlation of Naturalism and millions of years. The belief that the universe is billions of years old and that eventually life evolved from molecules to man on planet earth millions of years ago is essential to the religion of naturalism, and for that matter pantheism. This is a pagan idea that is not taught in Scripture at all. Of course, if the history recorded in the Genesis record is authentic, then there is no possibility of evolution over millions of years. Why - because millions of years of past history does not exist according to Scripture.

But millions of years of history are essential if one is to explain life without God! This is why Christians must stop compromising with this false history. Not only does the Bible not teach such a thing, but our compromise is leaving the door open for the unbelieving world to hang on to unbelief!

All Christians need to understand that the dating methods devised by humans are fallible and based upon fallible assumptions. The Bible is the only reliable source for dating the earth because it is God's infallible word! We need to confront the world with true history as recorded in God's word instead of allowing for millions of years of history created in the fanciful imaginations of those building upon unproven and untrustworthy assumptions!

As well, Christian leaders must come to grips with the fact that compromise with the pagan idea of millions of years makes God responsible for death, disease, thorns, carnivore, and suffering millions of years before sin. The inspired Word of God is emphatic on this point. There was no death and dying in the world unto AFTER Adam sinned! The church must once again lay out the real choice that all men must make. It is the choice between God's word and man's word. We cannot

expect an unbelieving world to be convicted by the Bible if they don't understand its authority!! Our compromise only serves to undermine the authority of the book we are called to teach and preach. It is high time that we reprove, rebuke, and exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine. I submit to you that it is impossible to do that without an authoritative Bible that is inspired from the very first verse!! May the Lord give his people the courage to stand toe-to-toe with the unbelief of our age without compromise. I say that is the only way we can hope to win our children and their generation to the Lord Jesus Christ!

I am going to finish with a quote from Brother Ken Ham. He recently wrote:

*“The secular world has intimidated so many pastors and Bible college/seminary academics to believe in millions of years, for if they don't accept an old earth, they will be accused of being anti-intellectual and anti-science. It's largely a problem of academic pride. Why such intimidation from the world? Because the idea of an earth that is millions of years old is the foundational religion of this age for secularists, who need to explain the universe and all of life without God.” ( Ken Ham, Answers Update, Volume 19, Issue 4)*

My friends, we must give up the compromise. We must not be intimidated by the world. We need to shut the door on this compromise that is undermining the church and the culture.

Conclusion: 2 Tim. 1:6-8 . . .