

Evolution 101

Lesson 16

SHOULD CHRISTIANS REPEAL GOD'S 4TH LAW?

My informal survey leads me to believe that probably one half of the professing Christians have repealed the Fourth Commandment that reads:

“For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea and all that in them is and rested the seventh day:” Exodus 20:11

I find it impossible to reconcile the plain meaning of this law with the long age of our planet that so many Christians accept as true. These people are called theistic evolutionists, an oxymoron.

They accept millions of years of age for our planet with no empirical proof from the majority of scientists that the theory of macroevolution is true. These theistic evolutionists accept the word of these people with few questions asked. Most scientists are nontheists and ad-vocate macroevolution. Only the theory of evolution demands eons of time, not true science. These Christians are quick to concede the point.

The Fourth Commandment is consistent with the definition of a “day” the first time it is used in Genesis in the evening/morning sequence of the first day. As a model for man’s workweek, it makes no sense whatever to think of working six million years, for example, and resting for one million years.

Christians should remember that there are no absolutes in science. The only absolute is Scripture. It is folly for Christians to anchor a theological doctrine on a current fad of science such as macroevolution. Do you remember the Galileo affair where the pagan scientist, Ptolemy, had “proved” that the sun orbited earth? When the scientists rejected the theory, the church suffered a serious loss of credibility. A religious doctrine, supposedly an absolute, cannot be changed willy nilly to embrace a news headline.

Scientists will surely reject macroevolution one of these days since it is not an absolute and there are so many natural processes that contradict it. They are not embarrassed when they replace one tentative conclusion with a better one. That is the name of their game.

Already, they have moved from Darwinian gradualism to modern “punctuated equilibrium” to get in line with the fossil record which shows leaps and bounds and no sign of gradual change of one kind of creature into another. The fossil record is exactly what creationism predicts.

But can a Christian change a doctrine, an absolute, based on so-called science just because the scientists change their minds? One cannot switch theological absolutes lightly without losing credibility. Isn’t it better to wait for empirical proof that the Bible is wrong about creation before making ad hoc reinterpretations?

How do these Christians mangle a law of God, inscribed by the finger of God on stone? **(De 9:10)** God obviously knows how to communicate in Hebrew. This law was delivered to the people at a time when they knew from experience that a day was a solar day. In the words of a famous politician, “this law is the controlling legal authority” on the subject of creation. Before giving up on a direct quotation of God and twisting it to accommodate the unregenerate scientists, a Christian ought at least to demand empirical proof of truth for the theory of macroevolution. Evolutionists brag that the evidence for evolution is as powerful as the evidence for the Law of Gravity. Is it too much to ask them to show it to us? There will be plenty of time after that to make changes in Christian doctrines. It is blasphemy not to wait.

Neither evolutionism nor creationism is subject to empirical proof or disproof. Both are philosophies or metaphysical faith systems. A person must choose between them. It’s as simple as that. It is inherently wrong to interpret Scripture with a science textbook. Natural science is a wonderful discipline and makes

life easier for all of us. But it is limited to natural processes that cannot explain the origin of matter, life and man and the scientific laws that describe them. Only Scripture can do that.

Some scientists complain that it is “unsporting” to demand empirical proof for evolution because ***“they are all agreed that evolution of life on earth is no longer a theory but a fact.”*** They do not mean fact as defined in the dictionary which is: (1) something known with certainty. (2) Something that has been objectively verified. (3) Something that has a real, demonstrable existence. A majority vote is not acceptable as proof for truth.

Is the Bible in conflict with science? Certainly not. In fact, true science is a friend of the Bible. The more science that a Christian can learn the better it is. True science will support Scripture and trash macroevolution.

There is a difference, of course, between a scientist and science.

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