

Science and the Bible – Different but in Full Harmony

- I. Science
 - A. Describes characteristics of the material universe – **processes**.
 - B. Relies on observable and measurable features.
 - C. Knowledge (truth) must be provable and reproducible.
 - D. Is able to say *how* things happen; unable to say *why* things happen.
- II. The Bible
 - A. Tells about God's **person**, about His **purpose**, and about His **plan** for how He fulfills it with man's participation and cooperation (God's economy).
 - B. Gen. 1:1¹. "The Bible, composed of two testaments, the Old Testament and the New Testament, is the complete written divine revelation of God to man. The major revelation in the entire Bible is the unique divine economy of the unique Triune God." *Read your Bible and footnotes regularly so you know what it says.*
 - C. The Bible is not intended to provide scientific information, e.g., age of universe.
 - D. There is wide-spread cultural confusion about the Bible; e.g., it is not a guide for how to get to heaven.
 - E. The assertion that items of faith must be proven scientifically is invalid.
- III. Both scientific and Biblical perspectives about the creation are valid - but different.
 - A. Fundamental proven science is commonly accepted, but it is often misrepresented in certain key interpretations, such as human evolution.
 - B. Many world-leading scientists agree on the validity of the Bible and Christian faith, in equal % with nonscientists (e.g., S.J. Gould – NOMA; F. Collins - NIH).
 - C. The Bible and Christian faith are often attacked from a scientific perspective based on misinformation (ignorance) or someone's personal agenda.
 - D. Science is incapable of addressing issues in spiritual realm – no transducer.
- IV. The two Great (process) Mysteries concerning man that have not been answered by science.
 - A. There are two profound characteristics of humans not explained by science.
 - B. Where did humans come from nearly instantly on historical time scales?
 - C. Who taught Adam to speak?
 - D. The answers to both mysteries is found in the Bible by God's divine interventions in order to be able to fulfill His divine purpose by His divine economy.
- V. The New Creation
 - A. The new creation is a major component in God's purpose and economy.

- B. Science deals only with the old creation; is totally irrelevant to new creation.
- C. Christians occupy a totally unique position in the history of the universe as simultaneous participants in both old creation and new creation.

VI. Some general points

- A. What you believe about this topic is not related to the basic Christian faith.
- B. The objective is to be secure and confident in your faith in Christ and the Bible.
- C. The objective is not to be able to win arguments about your faith or the Bible.

