

THE PROBLEM OF GOD

PART TWO: THE PROBLEM OF GOD AND SCIENCE

So many people believe there's an irreconcilable tension between science and Christianity. If you become a Christian, you can't embrace science. If you embrace science, you can't have faith. What if faith and reason aren't enemies, but friends?

BIG IDEA: Faith and science are not enemies. Faith and science are friends.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. How has a 'scientific' world view either challenged your faith, become an obstacle to faith for you or become a catalyst to faith for you?
2. "If I believe in science, I can't believe in God." What are the problems associated with that view?
3. With your Bible or Bible App, read Genesis 1:1-5

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was formless and empty, and darkness covered the deep waters. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the surface of the waters. Then God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. And God saw that the light was good. Then he separated the light from the darkness. God called the light "day" and the darkness "night." And evening passed and morning came, marking the first day.

Genesis 1:1-5 (NLT)

4. Many people (including Christians) get hung up on whether Genesis 1 describes a literal seven day creation. What do you think of Carlo's point that the biblical account of creation was designed to explain the who and the why of creation more than it was intended to describe the how and the what of creation?
5. Does it surprise you that 51% of scientists today believe in some God or some form of higher power, and 33% believe in a personal God? Why or why not?
6. Allan Rex Sandage (1926-2010), widely acknowledged as the greatest astronomer of the 20th century (and successor to Edwin Hubble), said "It is my science that drove me to the conclusion that the world is much more complicated than can be explained by science." To what extent do you agree with that quote? Why can't the study of the physical universe alone answer metaphysical questions?
7. Naturalism says religion is an aberration...something we invented to make ourselves feel better or for our survival, but something that is also untrue. Some say that line of thinking exposes a flaw in naturalism (and in evolutionary theory): if you can't trust your rational faculties to tell you the truth about God, then you can't trust your rational faculties to tell you the truth about evolutionary theory either. It's a logical contradiction. Do you agree? Why or why not?
8. Even if we fully and completely understood the scientific "how" of science, we would always wonder who and "why." In what ways are "who" and "why" more significant questions than "how"?

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WHAT WILL YOU DO?

Even as you explore the ‘how’ of science, remember to go beyond that and ask who and why? As you embrace those questions, read biblical accounts like the Gospel of Luke and the Gospel of John to gain a better sense of who God is and why he created us.

This week how will you:

1. Be humble?
2. Stay curious?
3. Start at the beginning?



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