

May 19, 2019

GOD NEVER SAID THAT - Part 3

## **“Science and Christianity Aren’t Compatible”**

Some folks – both those on the science side and those who profess faith in Christ – do believe they aren’t compatible.

For most of the history of Christianity, Christianity was science’s biggest supporter.

**Psalms 19:1-4** (NLT): “<sup>1</sup>The heavens proclaim the glory of God. The skies display his craftsmanship. <sup>2</sup>Day after day they continue to speak; <sup>3</sup>night after night they make him known. They speak without a sound or word; their voice is never heard. <sup>4</sup>Yet their message has gone throughout the earth, and their words to all the world...”

**Psalms 8:3-5** (ESV): “<sup>3</sup>When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, <sup>4</sup>what is man that you are mindful of him, and the son of man that you care for him? <sup>5</sup>Yet you have made him a little lower than the heavenly beings and crowned him with glory and honor.”

Faith gave us a desire to examine and study God’s creation, and Christianity saw this as a way of learning about God by learning about His creation.

Christianity has believed that there were laws of physics and chemistry just as there were laws in the Bible, and God created both types of laws.

So many of the most famous historical figures who influenced science considered themselves Christians, such as Copernicus, Galileo, Kepler, Newton and Boyle.

Christianity makes faith statements, but they are grounded in legitimate evidence.

Science is also based, to some degree, on faith statements.

By faith, science believes that nature is consistent – the present and future will be like the past and laws of nature hold across the universe and can be observed by our senses.

**Two Worldviews, Two Ways Of Believing, At Work:**

- Naturalism – matter and energy is all there is; that everything we observe in the universe created itself from chaos so that the universe is a product of chance
- Christian theism – God is real and creates, sustains and redeems his creation so that life has meaning and purpose

The issue isn’t between science and Christianity but between two competing worldviews, Naturalism and Christian theism, and the presence of both worldviews explains why some in the science community struggle with Christian faith.

**Peter Medawar**, Nobel Prize winner in Medicine in immunology: “That there is indeed a limit upon science is made very likely by the existence of questions that science cannot answer, and that no conceivable advance of science would empower it to answer.... I have in mind such questions as: How did everything begin? What are we all here for? What is the point of living?”

**Erwin Schrodinger**, Nobel prize-winning Austrian physicist: “[Science] puts all our experience in a magnificently consistent order, but it is ghastly silent about all and sundry that is really near to our heart ... it knows nothing of beautiful or ugly, good or bad, God and eternity.”

If there is a God, and He created everything there is, then ultimately science and Christianity won't be in conflict, even if we don't see how to work through it all yet.

**C.S. Lewis**: “In science we see the notes to a poem; in Christianity we have the poem itself.”

**Next Week: We All Go To the Same Place When We Die**

**Additional Resources (in no particular order):**

**Websites:** [www.bethinking.org](http://www.bethinking.org), [www.veritas.org](http://www.veritas.org), [www.reasonablefaith.org](http://www.reasonablefaith.org), [www.leestrobels.com](http://www.leestrobels.com), [www.probe.org](http://www.probe.org), [www.equip.org](http://www.equip.org), [www.str.org](http://www.str.org), [www.rzim.org](http://www.rzim.org), [www.arn.org](http://www.arn.org), [www.questions.veritas.org/science-faith/](http://www.questions.veritas.org/science-faith/), [www.carm.org](http://www.carm.org), [www.reasons.org](http://www.reasons.org), [www.apologetics315.com](http://www.apologetics315.com), [www.testoffaith.com](http://www.testoffaith.com)

**Books:** *The Case for Faith*, *The Case for Christ*, *The Case for a Creator*, all by Lee Strobel; *Mere Christianity* by C.S. Lewis; *Reasonable Faith* by William Lane Craig; *The Language of God* by Francis S. Collins

Get the *Life Journal* Bible Reading Plan at [gateway-community.org/Find-it](http://gateway-community.org/Find-it)

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