

Colossians: Positive Living in a Negative Culture - Part 5
Made New: Chance or Intelligent Creation
First Baptist Church and The Lakefront Church - Venice, Florida
One Church - Two Locations
September 8, 2024

September 11 Memorial - 10 AM at Patriot's Park

Colossians 1:13-20 (CSB) *He has rescued us from the domain of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of the Son he loves. ¹⁴In Him we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. ¹⁵He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. ¹⁶For everything was created by Him, in heaven and on earth, the visible and the invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities— all things have been created through Him and for Him. ¹⁷He is before all things, and by Him all things hold together. ¹⁸He is also the head of the body, the church; He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that He might come to have first place in everything. ¹⁹For God was pleased to have all His fullness dwell in Him, ²⁰and through Him to reconcile everything to himself, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through His blood, shed on the cross.*

1. Creation of the Heavens and Earth

Genesis 1:1-2 (CSB) *In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.*

Herbert Spencer: Time - Force - Action - Space - Matter.

²*Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness covered the surface of the watery depths, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the surface of the waters.*

- Illustration: Water and Lightning

2. Creation of Life.

One of the most significant challenges for Christians is defending creation against Darwinian evolution.

- Evolutionists believe: Matter + Time + Chance = Life
- Creationists believe God + Nothing = Life

John 1:1-5 (CSB) *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was with God in the beginning. ³All things were created through Him, and apart from Him not one thing was created that has been created. ⁴In Him was life, and that life was the light of men. ⁵That light shines in the darkness, and yet the darkness did not overcome it.*

Creation vs Spontaneous generation.

Bill Gates, "DNA is like a computer program but far, far more advanced than any software ever created."
— Bill Gates, The Road Ahead

- DNA is information compiled in a chemical language.

ILLUSTRATION

E. coli has 4.6 million base pairs in the DNA arranged in a single circular chromosome [humans: 3 billion base pairs], and all of them are replicated in approximately 42 minutes. DNA replication employs a large number of proteins and enzymes, each of which plays a critical role during the process.

- The simplest life form has 400 proteins.
- Amino acids make up the proteins. There are 20 amino acids.
- The probability of the 20 amino acids correctly forming together to make up the 400 proteins is 1×10^{195}
- Non-Christian scientists have so convinced people that life suddenly, spontaneously happened and that over billions of years, people have evolved from chance, random mutations.
- If people are convinced that there is no personal God, then people will believe that they are not responsible for their actions.

3. We Are Accountable

Revelation 20:12 (CSB) *I also saw the dead, the great and the small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Another book was opened, which is the book of life, and the dead were judged according to their works by what was written in the books.*

Colossians joins creation with Jesus.