

# LESSON 3B – How Evolutionists’ Worldview Affects the Way They Look at the World (or How We Can Believe in the Bible and Science at the Same Time)

(based on pp. 3-69)



## Introduction – Most significant differences?

Last time we considered many differences between the Biblical creationary and the evolutionary worldviews. In your opinion which of these are most significant/irreconcilable?

Christian Worldview	Evolutionist/Agnostic Worldview
God exists—he is eternal, omniscient, omnipotent, perfect in holiness, and love	No/unknown god, only natural forces without God’s intervention
God does all things and invests all things with purpose	Our existence is purely accidental and momentary
<b>Origin of Life</b> All things were made out of nothing in six 24-hour days by God speaking.	All things evolved from eternal primordial matter and natural forces over billions of years.
<b>Spirits</b> All spiritual beings were created by God	The existence of spiritual beings is an open question.
<b>Humankind</b> Created to be like God in perfect holiness and love but now has a corrupted sinful nature.	They are highly evolved animals and continue to evolve along with society itself.
<b>Humankind’s Purpose</b> In joy and thankfulness to reflect God’s holiness and love back to him, to one another, and before all creation.	Find pleasure and escape pain. Be all they can be, make society as “good” as it can be, preserve nature.
<b>Humankind’s Accountability</b> To God.	To self, society, and/or the universe, or none at all.
<b>Humankind’s Destiny</b> Eternity with God through faith in Christ’s merits. Or without Christ, eternal separation from God.	Eternal nothingness; OR a “better place” becoming a spirit, a new being, or something else

1. Dinosaurs and dinosaur fossils and fossil layers are often used by evolutionists as evidence of the need for an evolutionary timescale of millions of years and gradually evolving animals. Can a creationist look at the same evidence differently?

- How can we reconcile dinosaurs with Scripture? (cf. God's description of behemoth and leviathan in Job 40 and 41) Job lived to be 300 years old, so given the lifespans described in the Bible, it is likely that he lived in the post-flood era between Noah and Abraham (cf. Genesis 11:10ff).

**Genesis 1:21** God created the great creatures of the sea and every living and moving thing with which the water teems, according to their kinds.

**Job 40:15-19,22-23; 41:1,7,13-16,19, 24, 26, 31, 33:** "Look at the behemoth, which I made along with you and which feeds on grass like an ox. <sup>16</sup>What strength he has in his loins, what power in the muscles of his belly! <sup>17</sup>His tail sways like a cedar; the sinews of his thighs are close-knit. <sup>18</sup>His bones are tubes of bronze, his limbs like rods of iron. <sup>19</sup>He ranks first among the works of God, yet his Maker can approach him with his sword. ...<sup>22</sup>The lotuses conceal him in their shadow; the poplars by the stream surround him. <sup>23</sup>When the river rages, he is not alarmed; he is secure, though the Jordan should surge against his mouth. ...<sup>41:1</sup>"Can you pull in the leviathan with a fishhook or tie down his tongue with a rope? ...<sup>7</sup>Can you fill his hide with harpoons or his head with fishing spears? <sup>13</sup>Who can strip off his outer coat? Who would approach him with a bridle? <sup>14</sup>Who dares open the doors of his mouth, ringed about with his fearsome teeth? <sup>15</sup>His back has rows of shields tightly sealed together; <sup>16</sup>each is so close to the next that no air can pass between. ...<sup>19</sup>Firebrands stream from his mouth; sparks of fire shoot out. ...<sup>24</sup>His chest is hard as rock, hard as a lower millstone. ...<sup>26</sup>The sword that reaches him has no effect, nor does the spear or the dart or the javelin. ...<sup>31</sup>He makes the depths churn like a boiling caldron and stirs up the sea like a pot of ointment. ...<sup>33</sup>Nothing on earth is his equal—a creature without fear."

- What about fossil layers and increasing complexity of animals in the geological record (Cf. What makes a fossil? The Flood. Folded rock layers. Polystrate fossils)
2. Does the populating of the continents take more time than a young earth worldview allows? (cf. Exodus 1:5 – seventy in all; Exodus 38:25 – 603,550 men aged twenty or more)
  3. Is there a plausible explanation of how the continents could have been so populated so “quickly”?
  4. So how old is the earth really? (cf. the phrase “became the father of” in genealogies of Genesis 5; 11 and the genealogy of Jesus in Matthew 1)
  5. On the bottom of page 25 Elizabeth says that a creationist worldview could lead the “harm” of seeing the environment and the creatures here as ours to use and abuse. What is the right attitude to have toward the environment? (cf. Gen. 2:15 “the LORD God ...put [the man] in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it.” Rom. 8:20 “...the creation was subjected to frustration.”)
  6. Does the distance of the stars, billions of light-years, disprove a young earth, six-day creation?

7. If there is no empirical evidence to support macroevolution, why is science unable to convince evolutionists/agnostics/atheists that the Christian worldview is the correct one?

**1 Corinthians 2:14** The man without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him, and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually discerned.

**2 Corinthians 4:4** The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.

**Exodus 8:15** When Pharaoh saw that there was relief, he hardened his heart and would not listen to Moses and Aaron, just as the Lord had said.

**Matthew 4:5-6** Then the devil took him to the holy city and had him stand on the highest point of the temple. "If you are the Son of God," he said, "throw yourself down. For it is written: 'He will command his angels concerning you, and they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.'"

8. What is the only way to change the worldview of an evolutionist/agnostic/atheist?

**Romans 1:16-17** I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile. For in the gospel a righteousness from God is revealed, a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: "The righteous will live by faith."

9. For a moment, think about the vastness of the universe, the majesty of the mountains, the beauty of the oceans and forests, and all that is in them. How does it make you feel? What are your thoughts when you remember that God made all this for humankind, for you?

10. What bridges can you use to share the gospel with an evolutionist?

## Closing Thought & Prayer