

BEYOND THE “EVOLUTION” VS. “CREATION” DEBATE

Denis O. Lamoureux DDS PhD PhD

St. Joseph's College, University of Alberta

THE PROBLEM

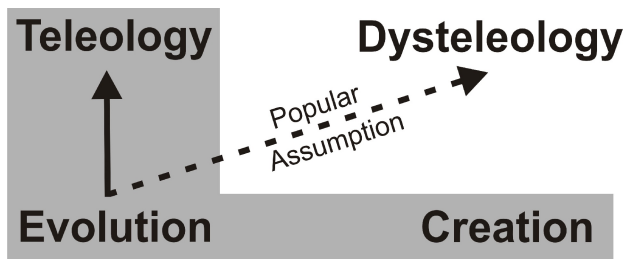
Dichotomy



Dichotomy: division of an issue into two simple positions caused by black-and-white & either/or thinking

TOWARD A SOLUTION

A. Terms & Definitions



Teleology: belief that the world has plan and purpose

Dysteleology: belief that the world has NO plan and purpose

Evolution: scientific theory that natural processes over billions of years produced all living organisms, including humans

Creation: belief that the world is the product of the Creator

B. Science-Religion Relationship

Religion & Philosophy

Ultimate Beliefs



Observations & Experiments

Theories & Laws

Intelligent Design: belief that the beauty, complexity, and functionality in nature point to an Intelligent Designer

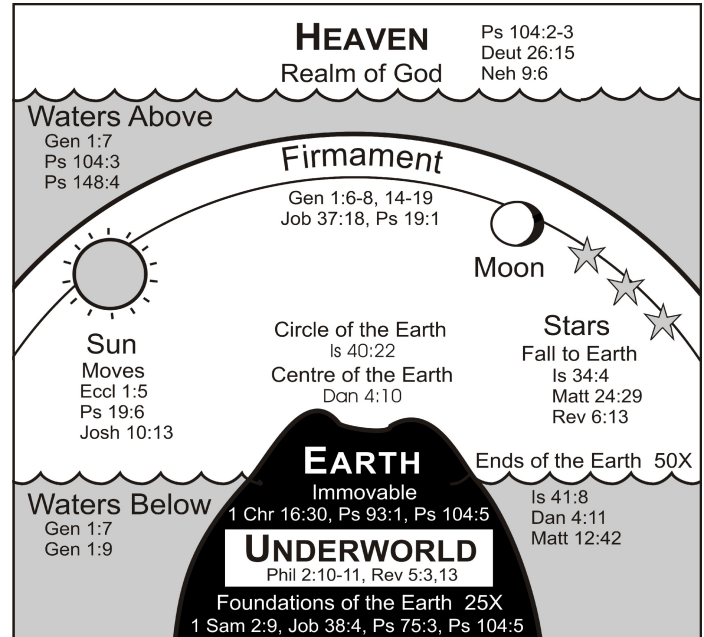
C. Views on the Origin of the Universe & Life

(Back of handout)

1. Divine Messages:

- God created the world.
- The world is very good.
- Humans are created in the Image of God.

2. Ancient Science: 3-Tier Universe



3. Ancient Poetry: Genesis 1 Parallel Panels

FORMLESS

Tohu

Day 1

Separate
Light / Dark

Day 2

Separate
Waters Above/
Waters Below

Day 3

Separate
Water / Land
(Plants)

Day 7

Sabbath
God's Day of Rest

EMPTY

Bohu

Day 4

Decorate
Sun, Moon & Stars

Day 5

Decorate
Birds &
Sea Creatures

Day 6

Decorate
Land Animals & Humans
(Plants for Food)

CONCLUSIONS

- Define the Terms
- Recognize the Faith Jump
- Move Beyond “Evolution” vs. “Creation” Debate

The Debate → **FALSE DICHOTOMY**