

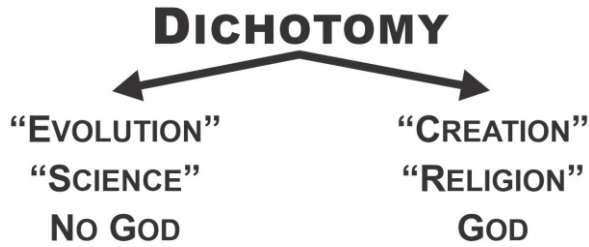
BEYOND THE “EVOLUTION” VS. “CREATION” DEBATE

Denis O. Lamoureux DDS PhD (Theology) PhD (Biology)

Professor of Science & Religion and Research Associate in Paleontology

St. Joseph’s College, University of Alberta

THE PROBLEM

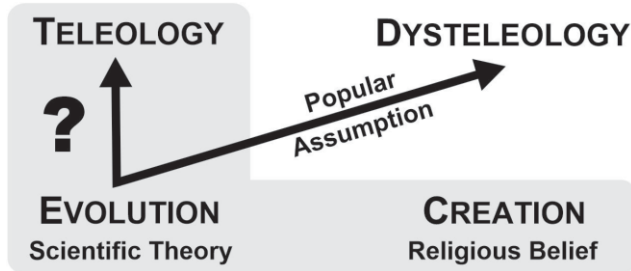


Dichotomy

Division of an issue into only two simple positions
Caused by ‘black-and-white’ & ‘either/or’ thinking

TOWARD A SOLUTION

A. Terms & Definitions



Teleology

Belief the world has plan & purpose

Dysteleology

Belief the world has NO plan & purpose

Evolution

Scientific theory that natural processes over billions of years produced all living creatures & humans

Creation

Belief that the world is the product of the Creator

B. Science & Religion Relationship



Metaphysics

Ultimate religious or philosophical Beliefs
meta (Greek): beyond *phusis*: physical world

Intelligent Design

Belief that the beauty, complexity & functionality in nature point to an Intelligent Designer

C. Views on the Origin of the Universe & Life (Back of handout)

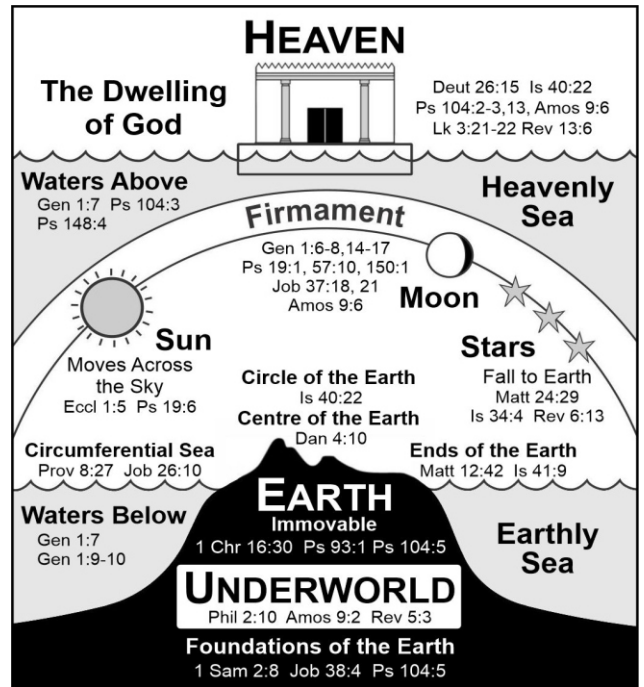
1. Spiritual Truths (Genesis 1)

God created the world

The creation is very good

Humans are created in the Image of God

2. Ancient Science (3-Tier Universe)



3. Ancient Poetry: Parallel Panels (Gen 1)

FORMING

Day 1
Separate
Light
Darkness

Day 2
Separate
Waters Above
Waters Below

Day 3
Separate
Water
Land

FILLING

Day 4
Fill with
Sun
Moon & Stars

Day 5
Fill with
Birds
Sea Creatures

Day 6
Fill with
Land Animals
Humans

CONCLUSIONS

- Define the Terms
- Recognize Reciprocal Steps of Faith between Sci & Rel
- Move Beyond the “Evolution” vs. “Creation” Debate

FALSE DICHOTOMY

VIEWS ON THE ORIGIN OF THE UNIVERSE & LIFE

| | YOUNG EARTH CREATION THE "Creationist" Position 6 Day Creation | PROGRESSIVE CREATION Day-Age Theory | EVOLUTIONARY CREATION Theistic Evolution | DEISTIC EVOLUTION Deism = Impersonal God | DYSTELEOLOGICAL EVOLUTION THE "Evolutionist" Position Atheistic Evolution |
|--|---|--|--|--|--|
| Teleology | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | No |
| Intelligent Design | Yes Points to a Designer | Yes Points to a Designer | Yes Points to a Designer | Yes Points to a Designer | No Design an illusion |
| Age of the Universe | Young 6000 yrs | Old 14 billion yrs | Old 14 billion yrs | Old 14 billion yrs | Old 14 billion yrs |
| Evolution of Living Creatures | No | No | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| God's Activity in the Origin of the Universe & Living Creatures | Yes Miraculous events over 6 days | Yes 1. Miraculous events for life over billions of yrs 2. God uses natural processes for stars, planets, etc | Yes God uses natural processes | Yes God uses natural processes | No Blind chance & natural processes |
| God's Activity in the Lives of Men & Women | Yes Personal God | Yes Personal God | Yes Personal God | No Impersonal God | No No God |
| Interpretation of Genesis 1 | Strict literalism Creation days = 24 hrs | General literalism Creation days = millions of yrs | 1. Spiritual Truths 2. Ancient science 3. Ancient Poetry | Irrelevant myth | Irrelevant myth |

WEB PAGE

<https://sites.www.ualberta.ca/~dlamoure/index.html>

Video Lectures

Sci-Rel lectures & handouts, **including this lecture**
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Published Papers

Evolutionary Creation, The Bible & Ancient Science
Intelligent Design, Religious Beliefs of Galileo
Religious Beliefs of Charles Darwin
Was Adam a Real Person?

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BOOKS BY LAMOUREUX ON AMAZON

The Bible & Ancient Science: Principles of Interpretation (2020)
Beyond the Evolution vs. Creation Debate (2021)
Struggling with God & Origins: A Personal Story (2023)