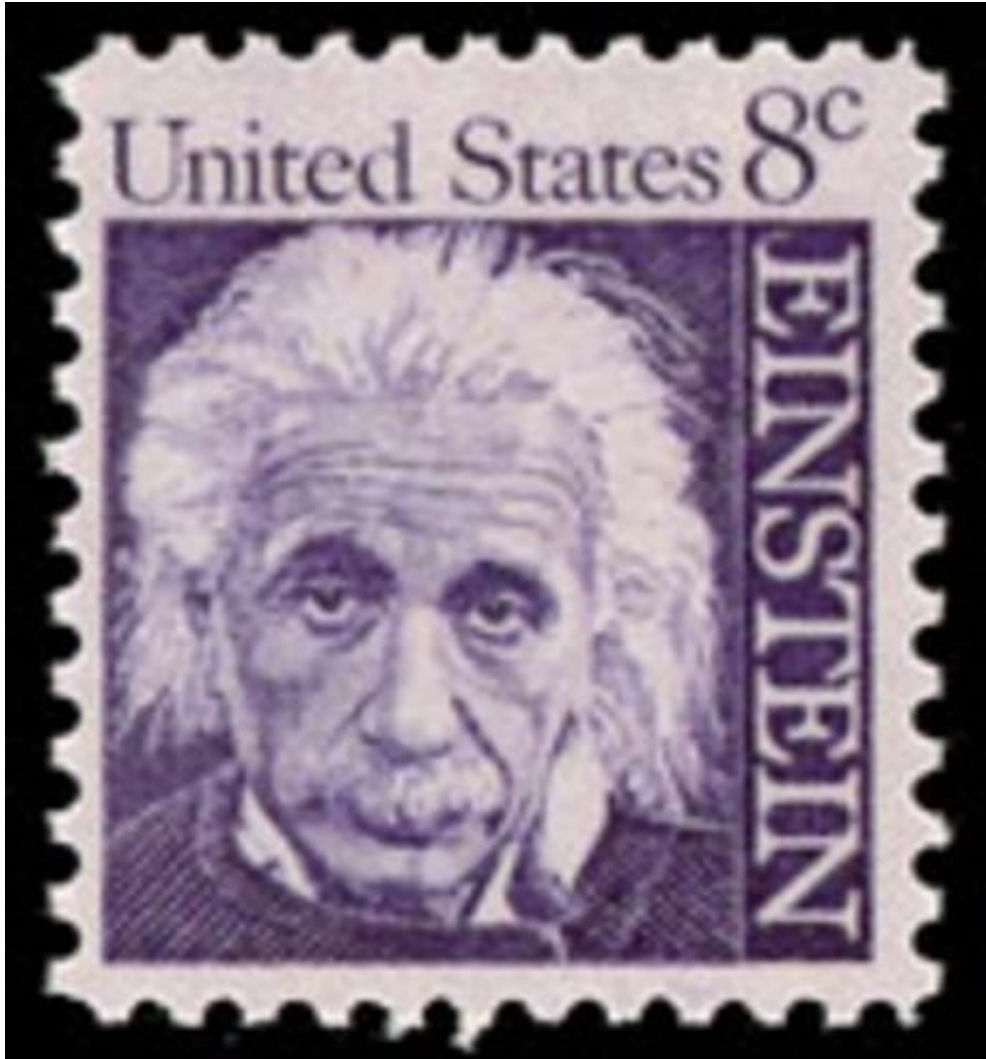


SCIENCE DESTROYS THE EVOLUTIONARY PARADIGM

An Inservice Manual for Young-Earth Creationists



Free Images – Snappygoat.com

Materialistic Naturalism, an Immoral and Incoherent Philosophy!!!

Dr. Jim Pagels – 4/18/2018

For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts. For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

Isaiah 55:9-11

This book along with its predecessors including *Apologetic Resources*, *Lesson Plans for Biblical Apologetics* and *Touching Lives through Apologetics, a Counseling Perspective* are offered free for personal and professional use in ministry, being available as downloads on the Michigan District website under schools-curriculum.

Scriptural references are typically taken from the English Standard Version (ESV) although the King James Version (KJV) is also periodically utilized.

Contents

Acknowledgements.....	5
Preface.....	6
Intended Audience	8
Inservice Perspective.....	9
Inservice Questionnaire.....	10
1. Evolution, an Attack on the Supernatural Nature of God.....	21
2. In Search of Truth.....	23
3. Creation Apologetics, Simple for Some, Incomprehensible to Others.....	35
4. Two Typical Approaches to Young Earth Creationism.....	38
5. The Absolute Veracity of the Supernatural.....	40
6. A Tactical Approach to Creationism.....	43
7. Design Features Relating to Man.....	49
8. Fruit of the Poisonous Tree.....	51
9. The Foundational Validity and Reliability of Scripture.....	58
10. The Power of the Supernatural in Refuting Evolution.....	60
11. God’s Goodness in the Face of Man’s Pain and Suffering.....	65
12. Purposeful Apologetics.....	67

Appendices

A – Answers to the Inservice Questionnaire.....	70
B – Additional Apologetic References.....	81
C – Apologetic Sources to Augment a Religion/Science Curriculums.....	83
D – Sample Lesson Plan – Offered as a download in <i>Lesson Plans for Biblical Apologetics</i> at the LCMS Michigan District website at Schools – Curriculum.....	85
E – Instructor Version of Selected Genesis 1-11 Thoughts along with Salient Excerpts from <i>Science Destroys the Evolutionary Paradigm</i>	88
F – Student Version of Selected Genesis 1-11 Thoughts along with Salient Excerpts from <i>Science Destroys the Evolutionary Paradigm</i>	94
G – Cliff Notes for Science Destroys the Evolutionary Paradigm.....	103
H – Key Aspects of the Creation and Global Flood Narratives.....	114
I – Apologetic-related Scripture References.....	121
Glossary.....	124
Biographical Sketch.....	128

Acknowledgements

Sincere appreciation is offered to John Fricke, former science professor at Concordia University in Ann Arbor, Michigan, who has shared his professional expertise, articulate proof reading skills and helpful reflections regarding this and previous works. A thank you is also extended to Kathy Krause for her expertise in providing a final proofing to this document. This writer has found it most interesting how the gifts and life experiences of various writers add substance and depth to the creation-evolution worldview conflict discussed in this product.

Many thanks also go out to my wife, Doris, who has been supportive in my efforts and time involvement with various projects and with whose help I have grown immensely in regard to my proof reading skills. Additionally, at this time in history, we are blessed by the abundance the many excellent professional creationism sources offered by young Earth ministries including, but not limited to Answers in Genesis (AiG), Creation Ministries International (CMI) and the Institute for Creation Research (ICR).

The writings of the following young Earth creationists have been most helpful in expanding the creation-evolution conversation beyond a conflict involving endless comparisons and contrasts between the biblical narrative and the pseudo-science of materialistic naturalism. These works include the in-depth handling of *From Atheism to Christianity* by Joel Heck, professor of theology at Concordia University, Austin, TX, who dealt with C.S. Lewis' life-long search for truth; the works of Jason Lisle including *The Ultimate Proof of Creation, Logic and Faith*, etc.; Brad Alles', professor of theology at Concordia University, Mequon, WI, *Life's Big Questions God's Big Answers*; Norman Geisler and Frank Turek's *I Don't Have Enough Faith to Be an Atheist*; and Tim LaHaye, for his many excellent works on creationism and temperament.

Preface

The primary concern for the writing of this book is the loss of our youth to the humanism that permeates our society. This evolutionary indoctrination begins with children's cartoons and the loveable characters of Burt and Ernie and Bob the Builder and extends into the textbooks used by most children with America. Secular colleges represent the finishing school for many who seek degrees in the sciences. With the concerted efforts of skeptics, evolution is offered as a fact and those opposing this view are pictured as ignorant, if not just plain stupid. This technique of demeaning the opposition is frequently used by those who would choose not to actually discuss the issue. Unfortunately, the narratives of creation and global flood accounts in Genesis are not upheld in a majority of the Christian churches of America; furthermore, simply embracing the foundational theology within one's confessions and periodically mentioning the Creator, Designer and Law Giver of the universe does little to refute the day to day "drum beat" of evolution's proponents.

The simple fact is that evolution is not based on science, but is a philosophy [religion] created by man designed to denigrate the Scriptural narrative. None of the four pillars of evolution (the pre-existence of matter, chance events leading to design, nature being a force in its own right in the emergence and ascendancy of life finally resulting in man and the deceptive perspective that "given enough time anything can happen") have any basis in science. The pivotal question is what one key point will undermine the foundation of the pseudo-science of evolution. The answer to this question is quite simple! Since skeptics claim that nature provides the only compelling force in the universe responsible for the evolutionary process, contrary to this misrepresentation is the fact the supernatural exists outside of Scriptures as exemplified by the design in the universe, in nature and in mankind. This fact represents a checkmate position for creationists since the evolutionary paradigm is solely based on denying the existence of the supernatural and God. Obviously, volumes of young Earth research and rebuttal exist on a plethora of topics, e.g., dinosaurs, the Ice Age and Ape Men etc., and being knowledgeable of the evidence enhances the refutation of the Darwinian scheme; however, the starting point in this battle is the matter of understanding the basics regarding the supposed science related to the evolutionary storyline. This is the primary purpose of this offering.

Understand that this product does not spend time or energy on areas indigenous to the ministry to our children, teens and adults, e.g., Bible stories and the emphasis of law and Gospel found in the theology offered in sermons and Bible classes. The point of the material in this book is that Christians need to confront and refute the false philosophies of our time just as was the case with Paul as reported in Colossians 2:8, "See to it that no one takes you captive by philosophy and

empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the world, and not according to Christ.” In contrast, Christ documented the truth of the Old Testament and his message in John 10:35 “The Scripture cannot be broken” and John 17:17 “Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth.” Efforts to harmonize “millions of years,” based on the reasoning and theories of man in opposition to the truth of Scripture, is fraught with numerous problems ultimately resulting in perceived incoherence within Scripture and therefore destabilizing the Christian message. In spite of the complications caused by the theistic evolution perspective, it is important to realize that God’s message as contained in Habakkuk 2:4 and Romans 1:17, namely “The just will live by their faith,” illustrates that it is faith alone that is the sole requirement for salvation. So although young Earth creationists sharply disagree with our old Earth creationist brethren, this does not mean that it is being suggested that their faith in Christ Jesus does not represent saving faith. As this writer reflects on this work, it would appear to take on the three dimensions: theology, science and psychology, all melded into a singular product.

Intended Audience

The specific purpose of this document is to offer a resource for inservice to be used by professional church workers, i.e., pastors, teachers, youth workers, etc., either in working with groups or for use in individual/personal apologetic study. Its focus is to clarify and defend the the foundational Scriptural narrative of Genesis in terms of the creation and global flood accounts. The fact is that given the voluminous and often confusing materials regarding many topics related to evolution-creation conflict, e.g., dinosaurs, the ice age, ape men etc., approaching this topic can appear to be truly overwhelming. But that does not have to be the case! Basic information exists which can make this endeavor reasonable and palatable. There are clear and specific reasons why evolution, specifically materialistic naturalism, is a false and incoherent philosophy. Scripture offers a clear, consistent foundation regarding origins and God's plan of redemption for fallen man. Additionally, although the Scriptural narrative absolutely represents the inspired and inerrant Word of God shared with mankind, there is also abundant proof beyond its pages for the design of the universe, nature and man and for the existence of a supreme being. These evidences highlight the irrefutable existence of an omnipotent and supernatural God. Given this realization, adolescents and adults will achieve a more clear understanding of the full dimension and meaning of the supernatural and the deceptive and incoherent philosophy of humanism and its antecedent of evolution. Once the contradictory nature of humanism and evolutionary philosophy is recognized, seekers may be more open to exploring a philosophy capable of answering all of life's most basic questions and additionally, those serving in ministry will be offered a broader perspective of God as the Creator, Designer and Law-Giver as revealed in Holy Scripture.

Possible Usages of this Resource

- A Short Educational Course - This book was designed to be a short course in apologetics focusing primarily on foundational matters. In this regard, a reader can print the questions on pages 10-20, read the text and simultaneously answer these questions. Lastly, a reader can then compare his/her responses to those offered on pages 70-80.
- A Review of Apologetic Concepts - A brief summary of this work can be achieved by simply reviewing the questions and answers found on pages 70-80 of this work.
- An Educational Tool for Professional Church Workers - This summary resource is designed to be used within an instructional format, be it staff inservice, confirmation instruction or within a Bible class format. It consists of an instructor's version (pp. 88-92) offering supplemental/explanatory information and a student version (pp. 93-102).

Inservice Perspective

As has previously been articulated, the primary purpose of this book is to clarify the most basic concepts and perspectives related to both the theology and the science of the creation and flood narrative of Genesis and related young Earth apologetic topics. The following inservice/personal study tool is intended to be used either for developing perspective within an individual or group context or even as a group project. For the sake of convenience, the attached questions can be printed and used in conjunction with the text. Within a group context, a discussion can be initiated following the reading of the text or answering of questions, the answers to these questions being found on pages 70-80 of this book. Additionally, given the fact that young Earth creationism is somewhat of a niche area both for theology and science, it is helpful that one individual within a ministry setting assume or be assigned leadership in providing ongoing guidance/support in this area, be it a pastor, principal, school educator, etc.

The Creation Update from Creation Ministries International (May of 2018) featured an article titled *Rusty cars and Christian institutions*. It discussed how the founding leadership in Christian universities is frequently faithful to the Scriptural narrative; however over time for a variety of reasons, established principles are compromised and the problem of “removing rust” from a spiritually decaying institution is a very challenging but a worthwhile process. The example offered was the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary which in 1993 came under the new leadership of Dr. Albert Mohler whose job description was to “remove the rust” from this Christian institution as its roots in the Scriptural narrative are being marginalized. In successfully fulfilling his mandate, Dr. Mohler has been quoted as saying “...almost every Christian heresy can be traced in some form to attempt to separate God the Creator from God the Redeemer. The Gospel of Jesus Christ makes no sense unless you put it in the context of the total story of God’s creative and redemptive work, from Genesis to Revelation.” The supporting Scriptural text in this regard was Matthew 5:13, (Jesus said,) “You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people's feet.” The LCMS is a large and complex institution made of up seminaries, universities, districts, congregations and schools. Herding cats is an incredibly complex task! Let the example of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary be a warning to us all for the need for leadership from the top and throughout all its constituents in regard to maintaining the true Scriptural narrative. To that end, this inservice product is being freely offered!

Inservice Questionnaire

The Application of Apologetics

- What is the basic meaning of the term, “apologetics?”
- Explain the interconnection between interpersonal relations and Christian apologetics.
- Explain the difference of dealing with children relative to apologetics in contrast to ministering to adolescences and adults.
- Why is the topic of young Earth creationism so vital with our youth?
- Explain a primary factor that led Christians to harmonize Scripture with the evolutionary storyline.
- Explain how the concept of apologetics offers a “bridge” to the lost.
- Explain the transition in Paul’s life from a hardened Pharisee to a messenger for Christ and the effect it had on transforming his choleric temperament.
- What is your primary temperament and what are the strengths and weaknesses of that dimension of personality?

Holy Scripture

- How would you summarize Scripture in one basic sentence?
- Give three examples of God as the law giver for man.
- What is the meaning of Genesis 3:15, “I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head and you shalt bruise his heel,” one of the most theologically significance passages of Scripture?
- When David declared in Psalm 19, “the heavens declare the glory of God,” what was he attempting to convey?
- What is the significance or implication of passages such as Isaiah 51:6, “Lift up your eyes to the heavens, and look at the earth beneath; for the heavens vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment....?”
- Matthew 19:4 and Mark 10:6 state Christ’s words as follows, “From the beginning of creation God made them, male and female.” What was Christ implying by this statement?
- Although some would relegate selected parts of Holy Scripture to allegory, what event does the words of Christ in Matthew 12:38-40 clarify? “Then some of the scribes and Pharisees answered him, saying, ‘Teacher, we wish to see a sign from you.’ But he answered them, ‘An evil and adulterous generation seeks for a sign, but no sign will be given to it except the sign of the prophet Jonah. For just as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the great fish, so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.’”

- What is the meaning of Christ’s proclamation in John 10:35, “The Scripture cannot be broken” or II Peter 1:21 “...but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit?”
- What is the significance of Paul’s statement in Romans 1:20, “For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse?”
- In addition to verbal [plenary] inspiration, explain the foundational validity and reliability of Scripture from a secular perspective.
- Although the pain and suffering of mankind are often used to discredit Scripture, explain why this is a false assumption.
- Explain how truth is lost as our culture with regard to the philosophies of modernism and postmodernism.
- What is the position of the Catholic Church on evolution?
- The Catholic Church supports God creating the universe, a literal Adam, original sin and the redemptive act of Jesus and the Holy Trinity but accepts evolution as a fact. Therefore, can a Catholic layman faithful to the Churches teaching be saved?

Creation

- What are the primary components stated in the creation narrative in Genesis 1:1?

- What is the essence of the creation narrative in one simple sentence?
- What is the meaning of Genesis 1:27 regarding man being made “in the image of God?”
- What are the primary features that distinguish man from any other of God’s creatures?
- What is the connection between Genesis 3:19 “from dust thou art and unto dust thou shalt return” to entropy?
- What is the meaning of the term, “after their kind?”
- Compare Martin Luther’s perspective on the Genesis 1-3 to that of C. S. Lewis and Billy Graham.
- What is the significance of Isaiah 55:9, “Just as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts,” with regard to the creation-evolution conflict?
- How does theistic evolution violate the theological narrative of Genesis 1-3?
- Why can God not be held responsible for man’s pain and suffering and natural catastrophes?

- The claim is made by skeptics that creationism is not supported by real scientists. How would you respond to this statement?
- Jason Lisle discussed “The *Absolute Proof of Creation*” as related to the concepts of logic, order and morality in opposition to the theory of evolution. What was he implying regarding this matter?
- **The Genesis Flood**
- Given the phrase in Genesis 7:11, “... the fountains of the great deep burst forth....,” explain what catastrophic events resulted during Noah’s flood.
- Considering Genesis 8:22, “while the earth remains, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night, shall not cease,” what was the implication of these words?”
- What suggests that the Genesis flood was not a number of local floods, but actually global in nature?
- Explain why Noah has been described as a second Adam as signified with the term, “one blood.”
- What is uniformitarianism?
- What was Charles Lyell’s motive in popularizing uniformitarianism?

Science

- What is the difference between operational and historic science?
- Why does operational science have no explanation for the existence of matter?
- What three scientific laws depose evolution as being a false theory and why is this true?
- Why is the Big Bang an incoherent theory?
- What is the anthropic principle?
- Why aren't mutations the answer to the path of evolutionary development demanded by Neo-Darwinists?
- Explain the massive gap between the great apes and mankind.
- Explain the concept of the "fruit of the poisonous tree" as it relates to evolution.
- What questions would you ask skeptics to help them think through their secular worldview perspective?

Evolutionary Theory

- What was the importance of the “Enlightenment,” [Age of Reason] in the evolution-creation conflict?
- What was Charles Darwin’s theory of evolution?
- How did Charles Lyell offer feasibility to Darwin’s theory of evolution?
- What are the four most basic components of the theory of evolution?
- How does the term, materialistic naturalism, represent the essence of the evolutionary perspective?
- Evolutionary theory contains two contradictory concepts, namely that the feasibility of the process of molecules to man evolution required “millions of years” to occur and secondly, since fossils within the geological record are nearly identical to creatures living today [stasis] no evolution took place. What would be your conclusion on the basis of this data?
- How are humanism and evolution related?
- What is theistic evolution or evolutionary creationism?

- Why is the existence of morality endemic to all societies contradictory to the theory of evolution?
- Why do skeptics demand that evolution is a fact?
- Why is the Cambrian explosion strong evidence against the theory of evolution?
- Why can Darwinian evolution be blamed for the horrendous events of the holocaust?
- Explain why man typically denies God in favor of evolution?
- Respond to this statement, Darwinism leads to tyranny.

The Authenticity of the Supernatural Apart from Scripture

- What are examples of the supernatural found apart from Scripture within the universe, nature and man?
- Since natural processes fundamental to evolution do not produce life from non-life, what is the only default position for the existence of life?
- DNA is an example of language or information within a cell. - How does this finding contradict the foundation on which evolution is based?

- Why do proponents of evolution invoke chance events to support their narrative of origins?
- When evolutionary scientists use logic in pursuing their scientific pursuits, why does this show their blatant dishonesty?
- Why can the mind of man not be the result of an evolutionary process?
- During the 1800's William Paley offered the teleological argument for the existence of God using the example of finding a watch while walking on the heath; given this example, what was Paley implying?
- Briefly state the cosmological argument for God.
- Since the Indigo Bunting migrates at night using the stars for navigation, what does this fact suggest about the origin of this species' instinct?
- Why can non-Scripturally based examples of the supernatural be helpful in engaging seekers?

Curriculum Development – Based on this and related apologetic resources available on the LCMS Michigan District website under schools-curriculum.

- List three or more new and most relevant apologetic- related facts/concepts you have learned from this resource.
- What creation narrative basics will you add to your ministry perspective based on this resource?
- What flood narrative basics will you add to your ministry perspective based on this resource?
- How will you integrate the concept of the supernatural existing outside of Scripture into your ministry outreach?
- Review the Lesson Plan on pages 85-87 and comment on how such a tool could be helpful to you or others in ministry.
- Check three topics found in the *Resources in Apologetics* and/or *Lessons Plans* that may be helpful for you to review or to refer to others to check out.

___ Secularism vs. LCMS

___ Evangelism–Apologetics

___ Creation vs. Evolution

___ Monkey-Man Evolution

___ The Genesis Flood

___ The Young Earth

___ Mt. St. Helens

___ Plate Tectonics

___ The Ice Age

___ Dating Technology

___ Geologic Column

___ Grand Canyon

___ Darwin

___ Dinosaurs

- Given the twelve concepts listed in the previous item, pick one concept and search for three internet YouTubes that would be helpful in supporting your instructional presentation regarding this concept. A related YouTube can be found by referencing Answers in Genesis (AiG) or Institute for Creation Research (ICR) along with your topic's name or by referencing Appendix F of *Touching Lives through Apologetic, a Counseling Perspective* for a related resource.

- What related tools by this author found as downloads on the Michigan District website under Schools – Curriculum will be most helpful in updating your ministry perspective regarding apologetics?
 - ___ Key Aspects of the Creation and Global Genesis Flood Narratives - Appendix F on page 103 of this document
 - ___ Cliff Notes on Apologetics –Appendix D*
 - ___ Resource Materials including DVD's and You Tubes – Appendix F*
 - ___ Suggested Apologetic DVD Library Topics – Appendix G*
 - ___ Quiz on Apologetics – pp. 121-122**

**Touching Lives through Apologetics, a Counseling Perspective*

***Lesson Plans for Biblical Apologetics*

Chapter 1

Evolution, an Attack on the Supernatural Nature of God

The theory of Darwinian evolution is a case study in dead ends although it is still the “gold standard” taught in classrooms of America from elementary schools to its prestigious universities. However, its dogma of natural selection has given way to the Neo-Darwinists who have added genetic variation via mutations to buttress this false theory. The basic problem with this diversion is that mutations are patently degenerative, adding nothing to the validity of Darwinism. Furthermore, due to its inadequacy, in 1972 Steven Gould along with Niles Eldridge proposed another wrinkle to this theory - punctuated equilibrium. This bit of wishful thinking speculated that evolution is characterized by long periods of stasis punctuated by short periods of rapid speciation.

Similarly, chemical evolution, the formation of complex organic molecules from simpler inorganic molecules, has also resulted in a blind alley. When considering biological chemistry, proteins are composed of one or more long chains of sequenced amino acids essential to all living organisms. These compounds are simply too complicated to have developed via the chance events demanded by evolution’s theory. The discovery in the 1950’s of DNA by Crick and Watson led to the understanding that DNA was fundamentally a language, the most efficient informational processing system in the universe. The complexity of this language offered proponents of evolution the stinging realization that the origin of DNA was not based on chance events as their theory demands. Language requires intelligence negating the premise of evolutionary scientists that nature and chance are solely responsible for life on Earth. Now, in addition to the basic constructs of matter and energy, for which there is no rational explanation regarding origins, skeptics have to contend with the concept of information, which by its very nature implies design. This led the likes of Crick and Dawkins, similar to early Greek philosophers, to speculate that life on Earth was seeded from outer space.

More recently, microbiologists Michael Behe and Scott Minnich and mathematician William Dembski, slowly came to the realization that the only construct capable of explaining origins was that of an intelligent designer which led to the formation of the Discovery Institute. The fact is that all-or-nothing systems cannot evolve bit-by-bit. For virtually any complex system to function, every component has to be simultaneous in place! These recent cumulative gains in observational science have brought evolutionary scientists back “kicking and screaming” as they

are confronted with this paradigm of design. The stark truth is that science has validated that the universe is not the product of chance or natural laws. To the horror of evolution's proponents, they are again confronted with the Creator and Designer of the universe – God himself.

Reintroducing design into the observational science narrative is wholly contradictory to the musings of the post-adolescent Unitarian, Charles Darwin (1809-1882), who as a budding biologist, spent a little over a month on the archipelago off the coast of Ecuador, the Galapagos Islands. Charles Lyell (1797–1875), a friend of Darwin, was also a prominent historic figure in evolution's storyline. In writing the three volume work *Principles of Geology*, his goal was to free science from “Moses” which linked the catastrophic theory including Noah's flood to Scripture by creationists. Being a deist and conceding that the origin of the universe had a cause and thus a beginning, Lyell was not willing to attribute that source to the God of Scripture. Basing his claim on the previous work of James Hutton, Lyell popularized the view that geological phenomena that he called monuments were solely the result of processes currently operating on the Earth, e.g., weathering and volcanic activity, etc. In so doing, both the creation and flood accounts of Scripture were dismissed on the basis of his theory of gradualism which inserted “millions of years” into the evolutionary storyline.

Charles Darwin, in reading Lyell's *Principles of Geology* on his voyage on the HMS Beagle (1831-1836), discovered the long geological ages he required to support his theory of evolution. Darwin's theory invoked only natural causes to create life in his proposed process of evolution characterized as the “survival of the fittest” by means of natural selection.” This process required the persistence of the most favorable survival characteristics within a species and passing them on to future generations, thus leading to the development of new species. This theory was a bombshell fulfilling Lyell's desire to discredit Scripture and welcomed by atheists and dreaded by theists. Darwinism ultimately resulted in undermining the Christian moral basis of society and led to the acceptance that humans are accidental and transitory beings adrift in a purposeless universe.

Chapter 2

In Search of Truth

Truth is based on facts and reality, not man-made philosophies, social norms, or the feelings of individuals. Truth is not found in humanism and evolution endemic in our secular society. Philosophers have decreed their interpretation of truth over the centuries and continue to argue with regard to the nature of man, (good or laden by sin); the relationship of the mind and body, physical realm vs. mental realm; man having a free will vs. determinism; the relationship of man to animals, (equal or superior); nature vs. nurture; and assessing how learning occurs and knowledge is acquired, (inductive vs. deductive reasoning). However, the most profound quest for truth relates to the matter of origins. During the history of man, the search for truth has taken diverse paths based on myths, the reasoning or feelings of man or on divine revelation. Proudful man has used his ability to reason to deny God's wisdom in Scripture. During the 19th century Darwin's theory was embraced by the scientific community in defiance of established scientific laws, e.g., the first and second [entropy] laws of thermodynamics and biogenesis. In this regard, the first law of thermodynamics does not support the spontaneous origin of matter, entropy [the second law of thermodynamics] does not back the development of species from molecules-to-man and biogenesis does not support non-life creating life, all of these established scientific laws contradicting the evolutionary storyline. Therefore, although evolution is rather consistently reported to be a fact, it makes absolutely no sense for its proponents to embrace a theory that contradicts three of the most basic laws of science. This affirms that evolutionary theory has no foundation in science, but is philosophy [religion] in spite of what its proponents may do or say. Some significant historical highlights in the endeavor of searching for truth are offered here as they relate to the theory of evolution, philosophy, to Holy Scripture and to our own Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod (LCMS):

- Scripture's Creation Narrative – The Bible declares that the universe had a beginning orchestrated by a supernatural act of God creating matter from “absolutely nothing” along with energy, space, time and light. During six literal 24-hour days the entire creation of the universe progressed with the sky and sea being created on the second day, land and vegetation on the third, the lights of heaven including the sun, moon and stars in the heavens on the fourth and sea creatures including fish and birds on the fifth day. On the sixth day God added to his perfect creation the land animals and man, the crown of God's creation, who unlike the animals, was endowed with a free will, consciousness, reasoning

abilities, speech, feelings and an immortal soul. All of the plant and animal life forms were created “after their kind” meaning, that all life forms within a particular group, possibly at the family level, shared diverse genetic material allowing them to adapt to a variety of habitats, e.g., dog kinds, cat kinds, elephant kinds, etc.

- Moral Law – Although God created man with a free will, he also commanded him not to eat of the fruit in the middle of the garden in preserving his creation as perfect like God himself and also gave man rules to follow, the moral law. This was written into the heart of man at the time of creation and reaffirmed on Mount Sinai with God giving the Ten Commandments to Moses.
- Disorder/Entropy – Man broke God’s command by eating the forbidden fruit, forever altering God’s perfect creation and causing disorder in nature and mankind including disease, death and pain in childbirth.
- The Promise of Redemption – God promised to redeem man from his lost condition through his Son’s suffering and death on the cross for the sins of mankind, thereby crushing the power of sin, death and the devil.
- Scripture’s Flood Narrative – The Genesis flood was a catastrophic event resulting from God’s judgment of sinful man that lasted approximately one year. Only Noah and his three sons and their wives were saved including all the animals on the ark and an assortment of creatures in the seas. The previous single continent of land was ultimately reassembled into our present seven continents. Evidence of this event is clearly seen in the megasequences of sedimentary rock on and traversing continents and the fossil record found across the face of the Earth.
- Man’s Migration Following Babel – Anthropology, along with migrations throughout the Earth, document the lineage of the sons of Noah with Ham as the father of the African nations including Egyptians and Ethiopians and the Canaanite peoples; Shem, the father of Semitic and Arabian peoples; and Japheth, meaning “fair,” being the father of the Europeans and selected Asian peoples. This is in stark contrast to the secular “out of Africa” proposal regarding the origin of people groups. The tribal peoples of world, being of one race and living in remote locations across the Earth, represent bottleneck populations and share subtle mutations and unique genetic information replicated within that people group and recorded in Scripture as “one blood” by Luke in Acts 17:26. This global migration, likely in Job’s lifetime, occurred during the Ice Age, and included the eight generations from Noah to Abraham.
- Greek Culture – In asserting the mythology of gods based on the heavens’ constellations, Greek philosophers claimed that the universe was self-existent. The Romans adapted many of the Greek gods for their own use and also elevated their ruler, Caesar as a god.
- Plato (428-348 BC), a Greek philosopher, believed the structure and function of organisms occurred to achieve ultimate goodness and harmony that was imposed by a supernatural force, the creator. His belief was that evolution would be counterproductive in a world where ideal organisms were already perfectly adapted to their environments. The

naturalistic models based on logic and philosophy which had a significant impact on westerns thought can be traced back to Plato.

- Aristotle (384-322 BC), the father of biology, expanded Plato's philosophical position to include the origin and development and of organism groupings. He established a "scale of nature," in arranging the natural world on a ladder beginning with matter and continuing with plants, invertebrates, and vertebrates in representing a progression from the most imperfect to the most perfect. Aristotle also taught that the Earth was the center of a perfect universe in which the movements of the stars were circular.
- Augustine (354-430 AD, a Roman African theologian and philosopher, believed the creation account of Scripture was a literary device, not historical narrative. He viewed creation as being instantaneous or at least an event occurring on a single day and supported the existence of a literal Adam and the theology of original sin. Although Augustine did not endorse an old Earth view of creation, he saw God having the capacity to develop and mold his creation not randomly, but according to his providence throughout the ages. His vacillation in linking naturalism and Church dogma resulted in periodically invoking the supernatural in an effort to maintain selected themes of Scripture.
- The Old Testament Canon – The writing of this canon, meaning rule, occurred in stages with the books of history, devotion (wisdom) and the prophets being fixed via usage by the Jewish people long before Jesus was born.
- Jesus Christ – The Old Testament of the Bible attests to 353 fulfilled prophesies concerning Christ. The death of God's Son to redeem the sins of the world was a historical fact and Christ was witnessed alive following his crucifixion by more than 500 people including two skeptics, James the Just and Saul (Paul), during the course of 12 appearances prior to his ascension into heaven.
- Verbal Inspiration – This theological concept reports that although humans technically wrote the books of the Bible, the Holy Spirit maintained the inerrancy of Scripture by directing the thoughts, if not the very words found in the Bible. King David in II Samuel 23:2 witnessed to this fact in these words, "The Spirit of the Lord spoke through me, and His word was on my tongue." Jesus also, in discussing the Old Testament Scriptures, gave this reflection in John 10:35, "The Scripture cannot be broken." Lastly, II Peter 1:21 offered this acknowledgement of plenary inspiration, "For prophecies never had its origin in the human will, but prophets, though human, spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit."
- Veracity of Scripture - Although Scripture is not a book of science, yet it is scientifically accurate with regard to many areas of study including paleontology, astronomy, biology, hydrology, geology and physics. Notable examples of Scripture's scientific veracity include Job 26:7: "He stretches out the north over empty space; He hangs the earth on nothing;" Leviticus 17:11 (1400 BC): "For the life of the flesh is in the blood, and I have given it to you upon the altar to make atonement for your souls; for it is the blood that makes atonement for the soul;" and Jeremiah 33:22 (627-585 BC): "As the hosts of heaven

cannot be numbered...” this reference denoting that the stars cannot be numbered. These and many additional references, offer evidence that Scripture predated man’s accumulated knowledge by hundreds, if not thousands of years, yet without error unlike the writings of man-made religions around the world.

- External Evidence Supporting the Veracity of Scripture – Voluminous copies of early manuscripts of the Old and New Testaments demonstrate that Scripture has been transmitted accurately. Although the Bible was written during a period of 1500 years by 40 different writers, the message it contains is consistent, offering a coherent theology and worldview unlike any document of other religious groups. Additionally, archeological finds authenticate that the Bible is comprised of valid historical fact within a correct geographical perspective.
- New Testament Canon – The New Testament was completed and accepted by the Early Church prior to 120 AD. It includes the Gospels, doctrinal books comprised primarily of the Pauline epistles and also Revelation, a book of prophesies. The acceptance of the New Testament cannon was based on its being universally recognized by the early church, having the earmarks of inspiration, used in teaching and preaching or was written by an apostle of Jesus Christ.
- Council of Nicaea (325 AD) – This council established the absolute equality of the God-head, God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Ghost.
- Apostles Creed (390 AD) – This creed is a statement of early Christian belief and so named because it represented a record of the basic teachings of the apostles of Christ concerning the holy Trinity.
- Athanasian Creed (4th Century AD) – This creed was written to affirm the deity and humanity of Jesus Christ and the Holy Trinity as uncreated and co-equal members of the God-head.
- Aristotle (384-322 BC), the father of biology, expanded Plato’s philosophical position to include the origin and development and of organism groupings. He established a "scale of nature," arranging the natural world on a ladder beginning with matter and continuing up to plants, invertebrates, and vertebrates representing a progression from the most imperfect to the most perfect. He taught that the Earth was the center of a perfect, eternal universe in which the movements of the stars were circular.
- Thomas Aquinas (1225-1274), an Italian theologian, offered the first cause [cosmological argument] for God, meaning that since the universe exists it had a beginning and an original cause. He cautioned both theology and the sciences against overstepping their bounds i.e., rationalist-materialist declaring that there is no God while biblical literalists claiming the world is only 6000 years old, in his attempt to guard against pure materialism or an exclusionary faith-based system “devoid of reason.” Aquinas thought that mankind is both material and immaterial, the body being a product of God driven evolution and the soul not evolving, but created by God as its first cause. He proclaimed that teachings regarding faith are based on both Sacred Scripture and Sacred Tradition.

- Martin Luther on Creation (1482-1546) - Martin Luther offered the following perspective regarding the creation narrative, “When Moses writes that God created heaven and earth and whatever is in them in six days, then let this period continue to have been six days, and do not venture to devise any comment according to which six days were one day. But if you cannot understand how this could have been done in six days, then grant the Holy Spirit the honor of being more learned than you are. For you are to deal with Scripture in such a way that you bear in mind that God Himself says what is written. But since God is speaking, it is not fitting for you wantonly to turn His Word in the direction you wish to go.”
- Ignatius (1491-1556), one of the founders of the Jesuit order established to do mission outreach, zealously opposed the protestant Reformation. Following the likes of Augustine and Aquinas, the Jesuits maintained the dogma that man’s body evolved from a non-human source by natural forces, but when the human form had developed God intervened by instantaneously giving “man” intellect, will and morality.
- Galileo Galilei (1564-1642), an Italian scientist and philosopher, was a central figure in transitioning natural philosophy to modern science. Based on his astronomical observations, Galileo defended the heliocentric theory, namely the sun being the center of our solar system. This was contrary to the Catholic Churches’ position that the Earth was the central point. Ultimately, the Church declared Galileo to be a heretic due to his beliefs.
- Johannes Kepler (1571-1630), a German mathematician and astronomer, was known for his laws of planetary motion. Kepler was a Lutheran and a creationist and is noted for the saying, “thinking God’s thoughts after him.”
- Robert Boyle (1627-1691), an Anglo-Irish natural philosopher, chemist and physicist, was considered to be the founder of modern chemistry. As a biblical creationist, he not only defended the Christian faith, but did much to support Christian mission work.
- Isaac Newton (1642-1727), an English mathematician, astronomer and theologian, is known for his three laws of motion and his universal theory of gravity and was one of the most influential scientists of all time. He offered this reflection about God’s fine-tuned universe, “Atheism is so senseless. When I look at the solar system, I see the earth at the right distance from the sun to receive the proper amounts of heat and light. This did not happen by chance;” Newton was a biblical creationist, focusing more on biblical theology than science.
- Carolus Linnaeus (1701-1778), a Swedish physician and botanist was credited as the "Father of Taxonomy." He dedicated his life to classifying and cataloging organisms and revealing God's plan of creation. Linnaeus is best known for developing a two-part system [genus and species] for naming organisms and grouping species into a hierarchy of increasingly general categories.
- Andre-Marie Ampere (1775-1836), a French physicist and mathematician, was one of the founders of classical electromagnetism. He was Catholic and a devout creationist.
- Georges Cuvier (1769-1832), a French zoologist and paleontologist, was noted for clarifying the progressive nature of the fossil record. He argued that the boundaries between the various layers of sedimentary strata were the result of past catastrophic events, i.e., floods or droughts; however, Cuvier was adamantly opposed to the notion that species evolved over time.

- The “Enlightenment” - Commonly referred to as the “Age of Reason,” it is an 18th century European movement against traditional authority attempting to improve humanity through rational thought that inspired both the American and French Revolutions. Baruch Spinoza, a Dutch philosopher, laid the groundwork for biblical criticism in support of this movement by challenging the traditions of the Catholic Church and argued that God is an abstract and impersonal being and claimed that the Torah was written by Ezra, not by Moses. An outgrowth of this movement was the scientific method, which in concert with Spinoza reliance on naturalism, refused to accept any consideration of the supernatural.
- William Paley on Design – Paley (1731-1805), an English clergyman, Christian apologist and philosopher, in referring to God’s design in nature offered this reflection, “Let's say you're walking around and you find a watch on the ground. As you examine it, you marvel at the intricately complex interweaving of its parts, a means to an end. Surely you wouldn't think this marvel would have come about by itself. The watch must have a maker. Just as the watch has such complex means to an end, so does nature to a much greater extent. Just look at the complexity of the human eye. Thus we must conclude that nature has a maker too!”
- American Deists included George Washington, Benjamin Franklin and Thomas Paine – These patriots believed that God created the universe, but as deists they did not accept the proposition that God directly acts within the created world. Deism, a natural religion, is based solely on the laws of nature in contrast to what this religious group has designated as a revealed or a man-made philosophy, e.g., Judaism, Christianity and Islam. Deists believe that everything that exists had a creator based on the harmony, order and design implicit within nature.
- Thomas Paine succinctly summarized deism with these words, "In Deism, our reason and our beliefs are happily married" and believed that the study of nature gave mankind access to the mind of God as reflected in the correct social, political, and economic relations required for a stable nation. Ultimately, Paine used this viewpoint to construct a rationale for political revolution as offered in his *Common Sense* pamphlet which advocated the independence of the Thirteen Colonies from Great Britain.
- Thomas Jefferson (1743-1826) was a Christian deist who viewed Christianity as the highest expression of natural religion. Jesus was seen as simply a great moral teacher, not the promised Messiah and the incarnate Son of God. Jefferson created a revision of the Gospels by removing any reference to the supernatural.
- Miescher (1844-1895), the Swiss physiological chemist, first identified "nuclein" which was later called nucleic acid or DNA, inside the nuclei of human white blood cells.
- Louis Pasteur (1822-1895), a French biologist and chemist, established the law of biogenesis which stated that non-life does not produce life, meaning that living entities emerge only from living creatures by means of reproduction in opposition to Darwinian evolution, demonstrating that the theoretical process had no possible origin. Pasteur shared this thought on the marvels of God as a Designer, “The more I study nature, the more I stand amazed at the work of the Creator.”

- First Law of Thermodynamics (1850) - Rudolf Clausius, in stating this law, confirmed that matter can be converted into energy and vice versa; however, there can absolutely be no scientific or naturalistic explanation for matter occurring spontaneously. The pre-existence of matter which is ignored within the evolutionary storyline can only be explained as a supernatural act of a God.
- The Modern Consolidation of the Theory of Evolution. - As previously noted, Charles Darwin (1809-1882) along with Charles Lyell (1797-1875) were almost singularly responsible for the popularizing the religious dogma of evolution during the 19th century.
- Robert Wiedersheim (1848-1923), a German Anatomist proposed 86 structures and organs in the human body that were believed to be useless, calling them vestigial. These organs had allegedly lost their previous function due to the process of evolution. Currently five highly contested organs are still claimed by evolutionary scientists to be vestigial including the vomeronasal organ, goose bumps, Darwin's ear point, the tailbone and wisdom teeth.
- Alexander Oparin (1894-1980), a Russian biochemist, proposed that life on the Earth occurred by chemosynthesis, the gradual chemical evolution of complex molecules from simple compounds containing carbon, hydrogen, oxygen and nitrogen in the Earth's original "primordial soup."
- Edward Hubble Documented the Expanding Universe (1929) – With his new and more powerful telescope, Hubble "turned the world upside down" since his discovery of an expanding universe proved that the universe had a beginning, thus implying that it had a cause. This finding led to the rejection of the theory of an "eternal universe."
- C S Lewis (1898-1960), a renowned British novelist and Christian writer grew up as a Protestant in Ireland before rejecting his Christian heritage. Like many, Lewis in his prideful nature, felt that if he admitted there is a god, he would be responsible to him. However, an extensive study of philosophy and soul searching resulted in his embracing Christianity and sharing this new found freedom with millions via his mystical writings. However, this did not suggest that Lewis ever actually accepted the creation and flood narratives of Genesis as anything other than allegory.
- Pope Pius XII (1876-1958), a deeply conservative pontiff of the Catholic Church, offered the doctrine of Humani Generis in 1950 which stated that the evolution of the body and nature does not contradict Catholic doctrine as long as God is the first cause in the creation of the universe. He further stated that the immaterial soul along with the intellect and will, being immediately created by God, are unlike the body which evolved over time. In dismissing the literal interpretation of Genesis, the pontiff indicated that God's creative acts occur primarily through the secondary cause of nature.
- Billy Graham (1918-2018), was the greatest evangelist of the 20th century. Although ambivalent about the reliability of the Genesis 1-11 narrative, Graham clung to and proclaimed the Gospel message in his charismatic crusades via his "decision theology and evangelical ecumenism."
- Brief Statement (1932) - In the years prior to 1929, efforts to bring about a union between the Iowa, Ohio, Buffalo, Missouri and Wisconsin Synods of the Lutheran Church occurred. This resulted in an inter-synodical committee drawing up a document known as the Chicago Thesis. This was rejected by in LCMS convention of 1932. In clarifying the

synod's doctrinal stand, theologian Franz Pieper's Brief Statement was adopted. This document upheld the teachings of the Genesis six day literal 24-hour creation narrative and rejected evolutionary perspectives regarding origins.

- The Humanist Manifesto (1933) – This secular-oriented document proposed that the universe is self-existent, not created and that man emerged as the result of a continuous evolutionary process. This perspective, based on anthropology and history, claimed that man is an outcome of the interactions of nature and his social environment. The traditional dualism of the body, mind, and, of course, the soul being of distinct substances/natures was deemed totally unacceptable; furthermore, the existence of the supernatural was firmly rejected.
- Discovery of the Double Helix of DNA (1953) – Francis Crick and James Watson's successful model of the structure of DNA gave rise to modern molecular biology yielding insights into the genetic code and protein synthesis. The double helix model they proposed was only developed after they studied X-ray crystallography images they stole from Roselin Franklin's lab. Franklin did not know how to interpret the images she had developed and unfortunately was not given any credit for this vital contribution to the success of Watson and Crick.
- Alfred Rehwinkel, *The Flood* (1957) – This pioneering effort by a St. Louis Seminary professor dealt with natural phenomena and scientific facts concerning the global Genesis flood in support of the Scriptural narrative.
- Separation of Church and State – In 1962 during the liberal Warren Court Era the *Engel vs. Vitale* was presented involving the mandatory daily recitation of a prayer written by the New York Board of Regents. This case's defeat was based on the Establishment Clause of the First Amendment of the Constitution and dealt with the matter of "separation of church and state." Actually, this concept was not part of the U.S. Constitution of 1787 or any of its amendments. The Establishment Clause was originally intended to protect churches from the federal government by not allowing a national church to be established in America as had occurred with the Anglican Church of England.

The backstory of this matter was that in 1802 Thomas Jefferson sent a letter to the Danbury Baptist Association of Connecticut assuring the group that the federal government would never be allowed to interfere with the religious activities of churches. He concluded his letter with these words, "...I contemplate with sovereign reverence that act of the whole American people which declared that their legislature should make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof, thus building a wall of separation between church and state." By taking Jefferson's letter out of its historical context, the "wall" metaphor was used to eliminate the Christian concept of God from areas within the public domain. Interestingly, the American Humanist Society defines humanism as a philosophy which is, of course, a religion. Therefore, it is not difficult to see the double standard in America and by extension within public schools with Christianity being rejected and the godless philosophy of humanism being embraced.

Over time, the negative effect of the ruling of the liberal Warren Court on American culture is most obvious. Arthur Brooke, an economist and president of the American Enterprise Institute, has made a career of studying happiness. He found that nearly half of our happiness is genetic and another significant portion is having the good fortune of being born away from the horrific events of war, famine and epidemic. The portion of happiness within our control was determined to be driven by four factors: faith which offers a framework to make sense out of death and suffering, family, community and work. It seems ironic that although these factors were implicit within the background and agenda of the founding fathers of America, governmental intervention along with the tendrils of humanism has been progressively eroding these mainstays of contentment within the citizenry of our country.

- Seminex - The 1973 Convention in New Orleans condemned the St. Louis Seminary's faculty charging them with abolishing the formal principle, namely "sola scriptura" which states that all theological doctrines are derived from Scripture alone. The suspension of President Tietjen in August of that year resulted in a walk-out of 82 % of the student body and 90% of the professors. This renegade group then formed the Seminary in Exile (Seminex) which disbanded in 1987 due to its difficulty in placing graduates. This conflict confirms the fact that prideful man, no matter how intelligent, can never displace God as the ultimate authority regarding the authenticity of Scripture.
- The Statement of Scriptural and Confession Principles of 1973 by Ralph Bohlmann - This document was written in response to the Seminex controversy and, among other issues, rejected naturalistic explanations for the supernatural acts of God as recorded in both the Old and New Testaments.
- John Paul II (1920-2005), a pope of Polish descent, embraced science and reason in accepting evolution as a proven fact although he acknowledged that science and Scripture have "apparent contradictions." He stated that the Church does not make declarations on the truth of evolution; however, it does not reject explaining the origin of man via the process of evolution. In 1996 John Paul acquitted Galileo 360 years after his indictment as a heretic due to his support of Copernicus's heliocentrism.
- Institute for Creation Research (ICR) - This young Earth ministry, located in Dallas, Texas, was founded in 1972 under the leadership of Henry Morris who along with John Whitcomb, wrote the groundbreaking creation-oriented book, *The Genesis Flood*. In addition to proclaiming the Scriptural narrative, ICR embraces young Earth creationist research and outreach.
- Answers in Genesis (AiG) – This creationist ministry was once a part of the Creation Science Foundation of Australia founded in 1980. AiG became the offshoot of this group in America in 1994 with Ken Ham as its president. Located in Hebron, Kentucky, AiG opened the Creation Museum in 2007 and the Ark Encounter in 2016, featuring a full-scale model of Noah's Ark.

- Intelligent Design (ID) – Michael Behe is an American biochemist and proponent of the ID movement which developed in the mid 1990's. Due to his examination of the functioning of the bacterial flagellum's incredible complexity, he proposed two concepts that oppose evolution's primary premise of chance events, these being irreducible complexity and minimal function. Irreducible complexity refers to the fact that a system composed of several interacting parts will cease to function if just one of those parts is removed. Behe used the example of a mouse trap to explain his premise, explaining that when a part is missing, the mouse trap ceases to function. His second concept, minimal function refers to the concept of as an organism begins to evolve, not only are all parts required to be present, but these parts must at least achieve a minimal level of performance to sustain life within the developing organism.

Nonetheless, Behe still embraces the "old earth" dogma of natural selection and the evolution of man from primates; however, he does claim that the underlying complexity of cells and related mechanisms are ignored, thus undercutting the possibility of evolution occurring as a result of random processes.

The Discovery Institute advocated the inclusion of ID in the public school biology curricula leading to the 2005 Kitzmiller vs. Dover Area School District case tried in New York District Court. The judge's finding was that ID was not science since it cannot be uncoupled from creationism and therefore it violates the Establishment Clause of the First Amendment to the United States Constitution. He further ID is a religious argument for the existence of God presented as an evidence-based scientific theory about life's origins that has been discredited as pseudo-science. As one progresses through this document, the contradictory nature of this definition will become increasingly clear.

- BioLogos (2007) - This Christian advocacy group was established by Francis Collins, former head of the human genome project, who aimed to harmonize the historical science of evolution with Scripture. This goal is achieved by delegitimizing the Scriptural narratives of Genesis 1-11 and is supported by American Presbyterian theologian and apologist Tim Keller among others.
- Society of Creation (2011) – This is a group of primarily LCMS Concordia University System (CUS) professors whose goal is to support the historic position of the creation narrative of Scripture.
- Pope Francis, (1936) the Catholic Churches current pope, has reaffirms the Churches past stance on evolution stating "Evolution in nature is not inconsistent with the notion of creation, because evolution requires the creation of beings that evolve." The current Catholic Churches' stance is that God created the universe "out of nothing." However, it does not take an official position on whether the heavenly bodies, i.e., stars, nebulae, and planets were created instantaneously or developed over time in concert with God's providence. Similarly, the Churches' teaching is that the development of life forms occurred under the impetus and guidance of God, with the Church not having a definitive stance on whether this occurred instantaneously or

over a period of time. Its stance on human evolution allows for the possibility that man's body developed from previous biological forms, under God's guidance, but the Church insists on the special creation of the soul. Therefore, the Catholic Church generally aligns itself with the reasoning of man, the supernatural intervention, historical science and with evolution's proponents, all the time claiming the infallibility of its "facts."

- Modernism – In the beginning of the 1900's modernism developed in America as a rejection of European culture, particularly the tradition and classical forms typically associated with the Catholic Church. Proponents attacked the creation narrative as ancient myth, viewed the God of the Old Testament as a hateful and vengeful being, discounted Scripture's code of morality and adopted a higher critical attitude toward biblical interpretation. This approach uses reason alone to intensely scrutinize source information and events in various disciplines including theology with the goal of eliminating any consideration of the supernatural.
- Postmodernism – This reactionary movement, developed in the mid to late 20th century, is a departure from modernism. Simply put, postmodernists deny universal truth. Richard Rorty, summarized this philosophy stating the following, "We...[should] give up the correspondence theory of truth, and start treating moral and scientific beliefs as tools for achieving greater human happiness, rather than as representations of the intrinsic nature of reality." Given this viewpoint, one can understand the bipolar nature of America's universities, offering a swirling mix of modern-postmodernism which is anathema to theology.
- Eschatology – This concept refers to a study of the end times and the nature of God's heavenly kingdom. Following man's fall into sin, God promised to send his Son to redeem man from his sinful condition offering hope to those who embrace God's promises in Jesus Christ as their Savior. The Old Testament writings of Daniel and Ezekiel offer prophesy regarding these events. References to a new heaven and new Earth are found in both Isaiah and Peter. The 21st chapter of Revelation presents abundant hope to Christians now living within this "vale of tears." As promised, heaven is an eternal time frame in which God, through Christ's sacrifice, will triumph over evil, death, and Satan and a new order will be established, similar in many ways to God's original perfect creation where "there will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away" (Revelation 21:4).

Given this evidence, a number of salient truths emerge beyond Scripture's narrative of God's love for sinful man through the suffering and death of Jesus Christ. These include that man has a free will and a material body endowed with non-material/supernatural characteristics including ability to reason and compute math, language, literacy, creativity, a sense of morality and an immaterial nature, a soul/spirit. Design is inherent in not only the universe with regard to fine-tuning, but is also implanted in the substance and nature of man. Although man may attempt to explain the origin of matter, there is no scientific explanation found in nature for its spontaneous

existence; neither is there a scientific explanation for the emergence of life from non-living matter. The progressive development proposed by evolution from molecules to man contradict the scientific law of entropy deeming that an impossible process. Therefore the humanist's explanation for origins using the evolutionary storyline as solely based on the pre-existence of matter, nature, chance events and on "millions of years" makes absolutely no sense. Given these facts, the only rational explanation regarding the origin of the universe and life therein is the existence of the supernatural in the form of God himself. Furthermore, the only philosophy that provides a coherent explanation, in this regard, is the revelation of God in Holy Scripture and Jesus Christ, as the Redeemer of the world. This brings to mind the passage in John 1:1-5, "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life; and the life was the light of men. And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not."

Chapter 3

Creation Apologetics, Simple for Some, Incomprehensible to Others

Understanding young Earth creationism is actually a simple endeavor, yet many find it to be complex, if not incomprehensible. Simple since there is but a limited amount of knowledge required which enables even a child to know and understand God's clear narrative regarding origins. Complex since some spend a life time going down seemingly endless blind alleys involving philosophy, astronomy, biology, chemistry, physics, etc., and yet have not embraced the profound nature of matters related to the origin of the universe as recorded in the Genesis 1-11 narrative. This conundrum can be summarized in the words of Solomon as shared in Proverbs 9:10, "The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom."

Aggressive humanism has continued to advance its tentacles into American culture over the last century. These efforts within the scientific community continue to blur the line between observational and historical science to the point that it becomes increasingly difficult for the uninformed to discern reality. In contrast to operational or experimental science, historical science includes areas such as, archaeology, astronomy, astrophysics, cosmology, geology and paleontology, these dealing with past events for which there is no direct experimental data. The mantra in this regard is that "the present is the key to the past," this rationale being used to deny the existence of the catastrophic global Genesis flood. As has occurred in past societies with fallacious philosophies, there is a determined effort of proponents of humanism to indoctrinate the youth with their false and worthless lies. For a creationist, the facts are rather simple. God created the universe in six literal 24- hour days "out of absolutely nothing." There was a literal Adam and the global Genesis flood was a historical event that occurred approximately 6,000 years ago.

This humanistic onslaught has taken its toll even on the churches' faithful. Given the mixed message of humanism conflicting with God's message in Scripture being offered to our youth along with the inroads of modernism and postmodernism, the foundation of truth has been lost in a sea of confusion. The Barna research group has tracked church attendance for decades and for the most part found that churches goers in America are attending church less with 94 % of the churches losing ground as compared with population growth. The greatest drop in attendance has come with the Catholic Church (11%), mainline churches (10%) and evangelical churches (1%).

Ken Ham in his book, *Already Gone*, cited a survey completed in conservative churches of 1000 former regular church-goers between the ages of 20-29. Findings were rather shocking in that those who faithfully attended Sunday school in their youth were less likely to maintain contact with the a church over time, likely to have less confidence in Scripture and were more inconsistent in their moral behavior in contrast to those who were relatively less active in their earlier worship practices. The typical responses of this initially faithful church going group were that their previous church experiences were boring and tainted with legalism and hypocrisy. Ham believes that these churches have lost their way by not maintaining a focus on the Genesis 1-11 narrative of Scripture as summed up in the words of Psalm 11:3, "If the foundations are destroyed, what will the righteous do?" His perspective is that the diminished message of these churches sows confusion by opening the door to the godless humanistic doctrine of evolution and its accompanying mantra of "millions of years." It is commonplace for presenters of his AiG organization to be invited to speak primarily at only strongly evangelical churches.

One tragic example regarding the inroads of the humanistic message is that of Charles Templeton, once a close friend of Billy Graham. In being one of the vice-presidents of Youth for Christ, his crusades brought thousands to faith. However, Charles had serious doubts about the validity of the Genesis narrative, ultimately leading him to atheism as he documented in his book, *Farewell to God*. One may wonder how Graham, a former anthropology student at Wheaton College in Illinois, might handle the slippery slope of confusion regarding the Genesis 1-11 narrative. His response harkens back to the time when he almost lost his faith and gave up his ministry as he explained, "I don't think that there's any conflict at all between science today and the scriptures. The Bible is not a book of science. The Bible is a book of Redemption, and of course I accept the Creation story. I believe that God did create the universe. I believe that God created man, and whether it came by an evolutionary process and at a certain point He took this person or being and made him a living soul or not, does not change the fact that God did create man. ... whichever way God did it makes no difference as to what man is and man's relationship to God." With this in mind, it is helpful to understand that Graham's spiritual roots were in the Presbyterian Church.

The bottom line is that some have no comprehension of an omnipotent, supernatural God who created the universe, destroyed most life on Earth via a universal flood and is responsible for the unique characteristics of mankind. Without a knowledge and understanding of Genesis chapter 1 thru 11, it is not difficult to understand the skepticism of the biblically illiterate. It is the responsibility of those in ministry to God's people to share the truth of God's Word as Christ proclaimed it in his high priest prayer in John 17:17, "Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth." In support of the Genesis narrative of the literal six day 24-hour creation, Christ is quoted in Matthew 19:4 and Mark 10:6 as follows, "From the beginning of creation, God made them, male and female." A valid ministry of God's Word involves appreciating and sharing the true meaning of the creation and flood narratives as foundational to Scripture. In bypassing these basics, the Gospel loses its impact. In doing any less we are not fulfilling God's command in offering the full truth of God's Word. If there is no Law, those impressed with the secular

worldview of “millions of years” become confused and believe the lies of the skeptics which may result in a loss of their faith. The full council of God – Law and Gospel are necessary to fortify the youth of the church against the claims of the secularists.

The Lutheran Identity Standards of the CUS require two to three theology courses at the undergraduate level. This small sampling of theology can scarcely touch on the diverse of needs of incoming students who will be expected to share the absolute clarity of God’s message in their upcoming ministries. Additionally, our Christian schools face the challenge of securing teachers who are graduates of our universities and/or engaging instructors with a biblical background who fully understand and can communicate the Genesis 1-11 narrative. This clearly documents the fact that as a church we need to be offering the vital background in young Earth creationism in our training of workers and also providing meaningful inservice as required for those currently working in Christian ministry.

The primary goal of this book is to provide a tool for those in current or future Christian ministry to use in understanding and confronting the challenge of the secular humanism as evidenced by the destructive role evolution has played and continues to play in our society. The heart of this effort is to understand the true nature of our supernatural God revealed in Scripture, e.g. the parting of the Red Sea, Jesus walking on water or his resurrection, but also as found within nature via the fine-tuning of the universe, God’s design in nature, morality and the many unique characteristics that sets man apart from the rest of God’s creation. These evidences cannot be attributed to natural processes, chance events or being feasible due to the evolutionary process occurring over “millions of years.” The only reasonable explanation is for these non-material occurrences is that they result from the action of a supernatural God. This realization is a critical link in deposing the misconception/delusion that nature is the only driving force responsible for the emergence life on planet Earth. In confronting naturalism, a major emphasis will also be placed on clarifying the false evolutionary perspective by exposing it as having no basis in science and sharing the techniques skeptics use to market their deceptive storyline. In so doing, deposing this anti-Christian worldview becomes a rather simple matter, for the emphasis shifts dramatically from offering knowledge to sharing wisdom. This approach, for some, removes the barriers to faith and allows the Holy Spirit to do his work. Also included in this work are a variety of resources to support Christian ministry to both children and adults.

Chapter 4

Two Typical Approaches to Young Earth Creationism

Young Earth creationists typically employ one of two approaches. One involves sharing Scripture and emphasizing that the biblical narrative alone offers valid evidence for origins. The second consists of offering scientific evidence contradicting the claims of the evolutionary storyline, e.g., the numerous examples of falsified data, the absence of transitional fossils or the Cambrian explosion documenting the rapid proliferation of life on creation rock which contradicts evolution's theory involving gradualism. On the other hand, the evolutionary scientists offer evidences from nature claiming that the historic science of evolution is an absolute fact. However, the truth is that there is clear evidence for the existence of the supernatural and that even the evolutionary paradigm uses supernatural proofs in its defense of its deceitful theory, e.g., logic and order in conjunction with chance events to explain their viewpoint. The result is that the debate continues on endlessly without meaningful resolution. Creationists, whether they present philosophical or scientific arguments, state that their facts represent truth while evolutionists point to the reasonableness of their worldview in support of materialistic naturalism. From this point of departure, proponents of evolution relegate Scripture and particularly Genesis 1-11, (the narrative of God's literal six day 24-hour creation of the universe and his global flood) either to be allegory or myth. In so doing, skeptics demand that the reasoning powers of man inherent within the scientific method represent the only source of truth.

The intrusion of evolutionary theory into the educational and social milieu of America results in our adolescents and adults being confronted and having the stark reality of choosing between the Scriptural narrative or the pseudo-science implicit within the theory of evolution. This produces a conceptual intractability among creationists as they typically use a single pronged approach due to their primary expertise, whether they are theologians or have their orientation in science. Having had success and recognition in using their unique and God-given strengths, whether it is background in theology [philosophy] and proficiency in language or adaptability to the world of science, this may have become a barrier to recognizing the "larger picture" of the dynamics underlying this conflict of worldviews. A solution to this dilemma is to demonstrate that the evolutionary paradigm used by its proponents is a philosophy or religious perspective unsupported by science. Therefore, creationists must develop an approach which, similar to the

technique used by skeptics in their conflict with creationists, undermines the foundational aspects of the evolutionary storyline.

In the midst of their entrenchment, creationists are myopic in effectively communicating the foundational weaknesses of materialistic naturalism resulting in trapping many within their ministry to the belief that the theory of evolution is factually based. Additionally, humanists have been most effective in rejecting the Scriptural narrative, this largely being an outcome of the “Age of Reason,” the 18th century philosophy which delegitimized the monarch, the Catholic Church and Scripture. This “enlightened” view embraced the notion that the only creative and life-giving power in the universe was nature, leading scientists to accept the reasoning of man as the one and only paradigm of knowledge. This deceitful stroke of genius led to a rejection of the Scriptural perspective and has currently left many creationists typically arguing their case on the basis of circular reasoning, just as is the case with skeptics, each side stating the proposition they argue for is true by virtue of the fact that it is claimed to be true. Hence, proponents of the Scriptural message typically invoke such references such as II Timothy 3:16 which states “All Scripture is given by the inspiration of God...” or II Peter 1:21, “...but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit,” etc. Of course, although Scripture is the valid message of God seeking out the sinner, this is not particularly meaningful to individuals who are attempting to process the conflicting messages of Scripture as opposed to secular humanism with the earmarks of true science or have already embraced this destructive worldview. The question here is, “What needs to be done to take us out of the ‘Dark Ages’ of ‘child-like’ reasoning so that those who are being ministered to will be weaponized to counter the incoherent arguments of skeptics?” Creationists typically wring their hands with the loss of youth to the church as they live within a social milieu where toddlers are mesmerized by cartoons proclaiming the basics of evolution’s story of ape men, dinosaurs and “millions of years” and our youth are indoctrinated by a humanistic educational system which carries them into their adulthood in an increasingly humanistic/atheistic America.

Jean Piaget, the French child psychologist, described the creationist’s typical level of intellectual engagement as limited to the assimilation of facts indicative of a concrete-operational level of cognitive development and assigned an intellectual level to this stage in the age range of 7-11 years. At this stage of development time, space, and quantity are understood and can be applied, but independent concepts are lacking. In this regard, secularists champion evolution as being a fact and we reply that our narrative of Scripture trumps the legitimacy of their proposed facts. Who are our teenagers and the “man in the pew” to believe when the ancient book of Scripture is going up against the perceived validity and reliability of modern science driving the rapid advancements characterizing our world?

Chapter 5

The Absolute Veracity of the Supernatural

One typical approach to apologetics is to presuppose the authenticity of the Bible and of God's existence. It defends itself by exposing the logical flaws of other philosophies since Christianity can account for logic, order, fine-tuning and uniformity of nature, morality and valid science. This approach is used by young Earth creationist groups such as Answers in Genesis and the Institute for Creation and is based on showing that their worldview is rational and coherent in contrast to competing philosophies. In ministering to a preadolescent child, the presuppositional approach of assuming the truth of one's position is the natural avenue in sharing the truths of God's Word in Scripture, this typically offered in the Bible story format. With adolescents and adults, the validity of Christianity is frequently assumed as based on the inspired and inerrant Word of God. In a perfect world, this would be all that is required. However, this is not the case since the tendrils of humanism permeate the daily life of Christians, e.g., informational sources typically exclusively provide evolutionary based definitions, i.e., the dinosaur is a diverse group of reptiles first appearing in the Triassic period between 243 and 231 million years ago, etc.; what is particularly surprising is the assumed accuracy of this blatant conjecture offered by evolutionary scientists and almost exclusively throughout the popular media. Outgrowths of the humanistic philosophy include legalizing of abortion, Hollywood's frontal attack on God's code of morality and political support for the outreach of humanism in America. Furthermore, adolescents and university students are inundated by textbooks and course work designed to inculcate evolutionary tenants. The singular response to this dilemma cannot be simply based on the circular argument of verbal inspiration in saying that the Bible is true because it claims to be true, but to embrace an approach that confronts the false narrative of evolution. This presupposing of the authenticity of Scripture (evidentialism) is a one-step approach to apologetics assuming the historic evidence from Christianity and is supported by archeology, miracles, fulfillment of the messianic prophecies, Christ's bodily resurrection and the post-mortem appearances of the risen Christ. It engages human reason via natural theology in confirming that God exists by virtue of his having created and designed the universe. Evidentialism embraces the scientific evidence supporting young Earth creationism and is traditionally associated with evangelical and fundamental approaches.

In contrast, classical apologetics begins by employing rational arguments to establish the existence of God. Included in these arguments are the following: the anthropic principle - the

universe having the fundamental physical constants necessary to accommodate life; cosmology - anything that exists has a beginning and therefore a cause; teleology - order in the universe is a mark of design; ontology - it is logical to claim that a supreme being exists since evidence of non-physical entities including the mind and mathematic offer clear examples in this regard; and lastly, morality which, through its non-materialist nature, is universally found in the social fabric of man. These arguments, being theoretical in nature, attempt to address the objections of unbelievers to Christianity with basic and undeniable truths of logic, order and morality and provide a starting point for the presentation of the Gospel. Paul offers an example of this approach in Acts 17:22-34 as he related his encounter with the intellectuals of his day in the Areopagus at Athens, this being in contrast to Peter's presentation of the Gospel to the his audience at Pentecost who were knowledgeable with regard to Scripture's message.

Regarding Paul's efforts in Athens, some would suggest that apologetics involves reasoning people to the faith. This is patently untrue! The role of the Holy Spirit is to work faith through baptism and the Gospel, not through the efforts or choosing of man. The familiar Christian hymn, "I have decided to follow Jesus" is unsupported by valid Scriptural theology. Of course, Luther's epiphany found in Romans 1:17, "The just shall live by faith," does not rule out reason as being incompatible with faith. In actuality, reason is part and parcel of communicating the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Francis Pieper noted that the best apology (defense) of the Christian religion is its proclamation. Additionally, Siegbert Becker explained that the best defense of Scripture is Scripture itself. However, in clarifying this matter, he did specify that the Christian faith is not to be defended by rational argumentation; however, this does not mean that we are not to employ reason in the struggle with the lost or enemies of the faith since reason has the potential of tearing down intellectual barriers which reject the truth of the Gospel and thus enable the Holy Spirit to do his work of winning souls for the kingdom. Therefore, logic can be a powerful tool used to show unbelievers the untenableness of their pride and lack of faith. Additionally, keep in mind that Christ made use of parables in providing an image in the minds of his hearers to both explain his message and refute the naysayers. In this act of confrontation, the LCMS has over the decades had its apologists including Theodore Graebner and Alfred Rehwinkel and also Paul Zimmermann and John Klotz of the "Battle for the Bible" era in 1973.

To understand the conflict of worldviews confronting our youth and adults, it boils down to the evolutionist's denial of the supernatural in favor of their dualistic philosophy of materialistic naturalism. Proponents claim that evolution was solely responsible for the emergence of life on this planet Earth. Simply stated, they claim that self-existent matter was acted upon by nature via chance events over massive expanses of time to produce the universe and all life forms on Earth. The fact is that clear evidence for the supernatural exists apart from Scripture, contradicting the evolutionary storyline that nature is endowed with innate and creative powers. In separating fact from fiction, one must move past the bottleneck of "child-like" reasoning and consider what Paul said in I Corinthians 13:11 when he was discussing Christian maturity in love, namely that "When I was a child I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I gave up childish ways."

The basic question in this conflict is why creationists are not using the same techniques used by skeptics in rejecting Christianity and by their passivity not exposing evolution as a hollow and baseless philosophy. This is somewhat puzzling considering the fact that questioning evolution's storyline would be an effective first step in delegitimizing the theory and redirecting seekers to recognize the "absolute truth" of the Creator-God of Scripture. Numerous examples of atheists coming to Christ can be cited, as was the case with C. S. Lewis, as they over time came to realize that the account of evolution that they had previously had come to embrace was an contradictory and incoherent philosophy. It is then that they searched for answers to the most basic questions of life and were open to the message of God's love as found in Scripture. It is vitally important that in ministering to others the contradictory nature of evolutionary theory is clearly exposed. Again and again we are confronted with examples of children brought up in the church moving on to universities and being taken in by the humanistic message that permeates that environment.

Chapter 6

A Tactical Approach to Creationism

In “putting away childish things,” the key in this conflict is to compare and contrast the pseudo-science of evolution to the actual laws of science. It is with this unveiling of the truth that the Scriptural message can be viewed as a viable alternative to the secular worldview of humanism. Within this context, it must be understood that apart from Scripture, the supernatural is still an absolute entity in its own right. However, creationists may not typically think in those terms. It was this consideration that led C. S. Lewis from his adolescent entrapment in atheism to accept Jesus Christ as his Lord and Savior during his later years. In attacking the validity and reliability of the theory of evolution, the focus must be on the basic incoherence of the theory itself, therefore rendering it impotent. The basic question is this, “What evidence is there that materialistic naturalism is contradictory to nature’s laws and therefore a false philosophy?” The following resource information is provided to validate evolution’s incoherence/contradictory nature and thus, the vulnerability of this secular theory:

Materialism

This philosophy was first defined by the Greeks who believed the universe was eternal and proposed that everything in the universe is the result of matter. Hence, in maintaining the continuity of their theory, they claimed that the consciousness, feelings and reasoning powers of man are the result of materialistic processes. The obvious contradiction is that matter cannot create the non-material phenomena intrinsic to mankind such as feelings and the ability to reason; therefore, the only realistic default is that these constructs are of a supernatural origin. Furthermore, the difficulty of the Greeks in believing in an eternal universe or for that matter “millions of years” which was implied but added later to the evolutionary storyline is that our universe would have suffered from heat death long ago if the universe were eternal, rendering our present Earth a life-less planet.

Another conundrum for materialism is that in 1929 Edward Hubble, using his newly developed and more powerful telescope, came to the realization that the universe was ever expanding outward in all directions, thus demonstrating it had both a beginning and a cause. Hubble’s discovery resulted in evolutionary astronomers proposing the theory of origin known as the Big Bang. This theory stated that the universe was the result of the explosion of a compacted bit of matter called the “singularity.” A primary problem with this model of origins is that the

premise of a “singularity” is in conflict with the first two laws of thermodynamics. This first law states that matter can neither be created nor destroyed, thus implying that matter must be eternal. Of course, if matter is eternal, then the universe did not have a beginning which also contradicts this Big Bang theory. Even without getting into the technical aspects of the theory, evolutionary scientists have produced a mishmash of nonsense. They disregard the reality that a universe with a beginning and a cause is the result of a force found outside of nature, thus implying a supernatural event and therefore God.

The second law, namely entropy, states that matter only transitions from order to disorder. Given this fact, it is not only speculative, but also contrary to operational science to propose that a series of events can result in greater levels of organization; simply put, with an explosion being fundamental to the Big Bang, even a child understands that explosions do not create an increase in order. Of course, the progression toward order in contrast to disorder is also touted with regard to the ascendancy required within the process of molecules-to-man evolution. Furthermore, one can seriously question the contradictory beliefs of skeptics who invoke God’s fixed laws of nature in the formation of the universe and life and simultaneously claim that chance events were solely responsible for those outcomes, clearly demonstrating the unattainability of their position. In engaging a skeptic, the most basic question to ask a proponent of evolution in regard to the Big Bang is, “From where did the matter for the singularity come?” This is an unanswerable question since there was no time span prior to the Big Bang and no natural laws. The only default is that the presence of matter is of supernatural origin.

Given the popularity of the Big Bang theory, during the 1960’s and 70’s, philosophers began focusing on the significance of the expanding universe first evidenced by Edward Hubble. They hypothesized that the initial phase of expansion of the Big Bang would eventually lead to a period of contraction ending in an implosive compaction of matter, followed by another Big Bang and referred to this as an “oscillating universe.” In this matter, evolutionary scientists proposed that the contraction phase of the Big Bang would give rise to many new universes, resulting in a never-ending cycle. However, this construct quickly fell out of favor largely because, as was the case with the Big Bang, it violated the first two laws of thermodynamics. All this conjecture has highlighted the bipolar façade of melding historical science with philosophy in attempting to develop proofs for evolution. With the oscillating universe, the gulf of reasonable conjecture and valid science was even beyond the parameters of being acceptable even for these proponents of evolution. Paul explained this perspective of humanists as follows in Romans 1:18-20, “For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth. For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. For his invisible attributes, namely, is eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse.”

Materialistic naturalism is clearly not supported by valid science, either from the perspective of the universe being eternal nor resulting from pre-existent matter as required by the Big Bang. The validity of the supernatural is the only reasoned option; however, in defense of

their untenable position, skeptics frequently describe the creationist's view as being the "god of the gaps" claiming that when a question cannot be answered based on materialistic naturalism, creationists claim that "God did it." In support of the Scriptural perspective, it is important to establish the supernatural as a fact clearly observed in nature validating a supreme being as a viable construct. Genesis 1:1 clarifies the act of creation since the Hebrew word "create" means to "make from nothing," this is the only explanation for the existence of the universe that makes any sense. Furthermore Isaiah 55:9 explains the unexplainable as it relates to man's limited reasoning abilities in discussing God's unfathomable compassion in these words, "For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts." A skeptic's only defense when confronted with the construct of the supernatural is to either deny or ignore this reality as occurred with the 18th century "Enlightenment" and the influence of humanism in the 20th century.

There are numerous and quite obvious examples of the supernatural in the universe, in nature and also with special regard to the unique condition of man which must be denied if nature is supposedly the only operating force for the origin of the universe and life on planet Earth. Within God's creation, we find the design and fine-tuning in the structure and function of our galaxy, our Earth, plants, animals and man which is undeniable, but must be aggressively challenged by skeptics so that they maintain the authenticity of their unfounded worldview. In contemplating this matter, it is important to understand that there are at least 122 incredibly fine-tuned constants which both sustain balance in the universe and life on Earth.

Sir Fred Hoyle, a well-known astronomer who coined the term, the Big Bang, once stated, "common sense interpretation of the facts is that a super-intelligence has monkeyed with physics, as well as chemistry and biology, and that there are no blind forces in nature." Given his statement, one would surely think that he was a creationist, but that was not the case. In spite of his seeing through the anti-God bias in evolutionary science, given his fascination with space and extraterrestrial life forces, Hoyle clung to his belief in panspermia - that life on Earth was seeded from outer space. This is reminiscent of Paul's warning in Colossians 2:8. "See to it that no one takes you captive by philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the world, and not according to Christ."

The supplanting of God's truth with the reasoning of man shows the dramatic influence that the "Enlightenment" had in fulfilling its explicit purpose of rejecting the God of Scripture. This philosophical perspective is in utter contrast to genius of creationists who founded modern science, e.g. Bacon, Galileo, Kepler and Pascal. The evidence for the fine-tuning of the universe offered by these pioneers comes largely from the scientific area of physics with evidence including the strong nuclear force, the weak nuclear force, the electromagnetic force and gravity. If these forces were altered to the smallest degree, the consequences to life on Earth would be devastating; the fact is that the probability life occurring based on chance events is infinitesimally small, incalculable, and incomprehensible. The universe having the fundamental physical constants necessary to accommodate life is known as the "anthropic principle" and a limited number of these factors functioning in this regard are offered here:

- The sun is just the right mass. If it was larger, it would offer too much radiation and if smaller, too little. If the process of photosynthesis is disrupted, the Earth would no longer support life.
- The Earth's distance from the sun is crucial for maintaining a stable water cycle. If too far away, most water on the Earth would freeze and if too close, most water would boil, thus in both cases life on Earth would be decimated.
- The Earth's solid inner core and liquid outer core produce a protective electromagnetic field which is just the right strength to protect life from deadly solar radiation.
- The Earth's moon ensures the stability of our climate by minimizing changes in planetary tilt stabilizing the seasons.
- Jupiter's orbit is in concert with that of the Earth, thus shielding our planet from collisions with asteroids.
- Additional factors which maintain the constancy of life on the Earth include the Earth's rotation, gravity, axial tilt, crust thickness, oxygen/nitrogen ratio, water vapor, carbon dioxide and ozone levels.

Naturalism

A keystone of evolution is that life arose from non-living matter, e.g. simple compounds containing carbon, hydrogen, oxygen and nitrogen, the reported elements of the Earth's original "primordial soup." However, there is no scientific proof to support this claim; actually, the opposite is the case. Pasteur's law of biogenesis could be paraphrased, "life comes from life." Mother Nature is a powerless entity. As with materialism, naturalism has no realistic foundation in science. Simply stated, the existence of life on Earth is another factor supporting the default of a supernatural God. In contrast, skeptics propose a transition from nonliving matter to life with gradual changes occurring over time via natural processes producing more complicated life forms ultimately resulting in man.

Evolution's storyline also violates the Law of Entropy. All complex systems trend toward disorder. To rationalize this contradiction in their theory, evolutionary scientists claim that micro-evolution based on the variation in genetic material within a "created kind," over great time spans, will result in macro-evolution. However, Scripture also clearly documented entropy in that God's perfect creation has been altered by disorder as recorded in Genesis 3:19, "thou art dust and unto dust thou shall return." Psalms 102:11-12 makes reference to matter as follows: "My days are like a shadow that lengthens, And I wither away like grass. But you, Lord, shall endure forever, And the remembrance of Your name to all generations." Additionally, Romans 8:22 uses the phrase, the "groaning of nature." God's new covenant in heaven anticipates a perfect existence and the end of entropy suggested by Hebrews 8:12 "For I will be merciful toward their iniquities, and I will remember their sins no more."

As previously stated, scientific law of entropy states that within a closed system matter is in a state of deterioration. Therefore, both science and Scripture reject the viability of what

evolutionist claim is one of the most basic steps of their molecules-to-man process, the creation of life from non-life, again leaving the supernatural as the only default.

A ploy used by the Neo-Darwinists in pursuit of their false theory is that mutations, random changes in genetic structures, are responsible for the changes in species and since these changes accumulate over time new families and even new phyla will eventually develop. The fact is that genetic information is lost as the result of mutations, making such conjecture an impossible consideration. Furthermore, there are no currently documented examples of mutations producing a positive result within organisms; however, examples of the deleterious effect of mutations are numerous. These include over 4000 genetic disorders in man including cancers, Lou Gehrig's disease, autism and the physical-cognitive disorders associated with Down syndrome and mental disorders such as schizophrenia and bipolar disorder.

The simple genetic structure of fruit flies offers a prime testing ground in evaluating the role mutations play in the development of new species. For over 100 years evolutionists have experimented with fruit flies using radiation, chemicals and genetic engineering in attempting to generate new and useful genetic information. Theodosius Dobzhansky, a prominent geneticist and evolutionary biologist, used radiation to produce mutations in over 600 generations of fruit flies. His efforts consistently produced multiple defects, e.g., eyelessness, legs growing from their heads, extra wings, useless or twisted wings, etc.; however, his research did not produce the desired result of an increase in genetic information. Furthermore, the fruit flies consistently died when genetic changes went beyond the limits the organism could tolerate. In his 1937 book, *Genetics and the Origin of Species*, Dobzhansky optimistically wrote of the promise regarding his "cutting edge research in this regard;" however, evolutionists, to this very day, can only speculate concerning the value of mutations as a possible mechanism for evolution. The truth of the matter is that mutations are just another example of a blind alley that man has used in his search for a natural mechanism to support evolution in rejection of God. Fruit fly experiments have proven that fruit flies remain fruit flies as Scripture clearly stated repeatedly in the creation narrative of Genesis; God's creatures reproduce "after their kind."

The conundrum of which came first, the chicken or the egg provides unusual insight into how skeptics solve intractable problems. It typically goes something like this: given the consideration that evolution is a fact, a near chicken laid a mutated egg resulting in a genuine chicken leading to the emergence of the current "chicken" species. Of course, another impossible consideration to be ignored is the development of separate genders. This avoidance/obfuscation is just another case of circular reasoning, for believing that evolution is true, a mere verbalization can be offered in support of the supposed validity of this intractable theory.

On a more realistic level, there is another and more basic enigma for evolutionists regarding the origin of life. This involves DNA which is an extremely complex molecule fundamental to heredity. DNA, along with the RNA molecule, plays a major role in protein synthesis, including the transcription, decoding, and translation of the genetic code to produce proteins. This informational processing is an unsurmountable problem for evolutionists since life requires DNA, RNA and proteins within a cell, each depending on each other to exist and function.

Such a level of interdependence defies a naturalistic explanation and like the chicken and egg enigma, cannot be realistically resolved without invoking the intervention of a supernatural being.

Chapter 7

Design Features Relating to Man

With man, the crown of God's creation, incredible design has been verified by the phenomenally complex DNA molecule. This basis of heredity is not only an example of a code but is also an information/language-based system bringing even hardened evolutionists like Richard Dawkins and Francis Crick to abandon their Earth-bound naturalism and claim that "long ago" aliens first seeded life on Earth. Furthermore, Dawkins has been quoted as saying "nothing created everything," an obvious nonsensical statement based on the premise that again evolution's religious dogma eclipses scientific fact. The basic problem for these skeptics is that language can only result from intelligence. Hence, DNA cannot be attributed to the chance processes of nature as evolutionists would demand, but rather is by default of supernatural origin. Furthermore, naturalism does not explain the non-material and intrinsic characteristics of mankind. That is due to the pesky intrusion of the supernatural supported by man's ability to reason, his consciousness, feelings and morality which is implicit within all societal groups. Man has been also endowed with exclusive and advanced design features, these including definitive speech and language, mathematic and musical abilities, creativity, ceremonial rituals including worship and prayer and an appreciation of nature.

In recognizing the physical similarities between man and the great apes, evolutionary biologists claim homology, the concept that similarities in structures demand similarity in origin. Obviously, man has unique physical design features not shared by the great apes such as the design of the skull, the brain, a more complex system of balance, eyes and facial muscles which function in offering social clues, curvature of the spine contributing to upright posture, and the appendages including wrist and fingers which are responsible for man's ability to grasp objects in ways unlike that of any other of God's creatures.

In spite of these dramatic differences, in order to salvage their vacuous theory, some evolutionary scientists frantically seek to develop a common linkage between the great apes and mankind. One of the major gaps these skeptics attempt to bridge is the fact that monkeys, chimpanzees and apes have 24 pairs of chromosomes in contrast to man's 23 pairs. It was none other than Francis Collins, an evolutionary creationist and head of the human genome project, who taunted young Earth creationists by declaring in his *The Language of God* on page 137 published in 2006 that "The placement of humans on the tree of life is only further strengthened by a comparison with our closest living relative, the chimpanzee. The chimpanzee genome sequence

has now been unveiled and it reveals that humans and chimps are 96 percent identical at the DNA level.” However, more recent, unbiased and comprehensive research in 2016 by Jeffrey Tompkins revealed that chimpanzee DNA is no more the 85% similar to human DNA. This represents massive differences but is exactly what a creationist would expect given the understanding that chimpanzees and man have a common designer. By way of explanation, a couple of fundamental problems were found regarding the original research on the chimpanzee DNA. One was that the chimpanzee DNA in the original experiment was contaminated with human DNA and secondly, based on the belief that the theory of evolution was a fact, some of the DNA first believed/declared to be “junk” was excluded from the original study but was later found to be fully functional.

A problem with the perspective of evolutionary creationists including the scientists or theologian, e.g. Francis Collins, Tim Keller and Allister McGrath, is the intrusion of the reasoning of man into the spiritual realm leading on to query, “How could a perfect God use the imperfect venue of death and disease documented in the fossil record to create man?” Their adherence to the concept of “millions of years” undercuts the Scriptural narrative and hence the redemption of Jesus Christ for the sins of the world. In maintaining this secular viewpoint along with the theology of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, evolutionary creationists are required to relegate the creation account of Scripture and related Scriptural support to allegory/irrelevancy. Given this consideration, man is using human reason to rationalize his bipolar position of accepting only selective cases of God’s supernatural nature and is therefore required to pick and choose which parts of Scripture represent truth. A proof text in this regard is Exodus 20:11 in providing clarification regarding the literal six day 24-hour creation narrative, “For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day.” With this declaration God clarified this young Earth perspective as he offered the Ten Commandments to the children of Israel. Lastly, the most unique feature of man was that he was created with a soul, thus having the potential of carrying man beyond this “vail of tears” to his heavenly home due to man’s faith and acceptance of Christ’s sacrifice for man’s sins.

Chapter 8

Fruit of the Poisonous Tree

The notion of the “fruit of the poisonous tree” is a metaphor describing that when percept is false, any resulting product of that percept is also similarly contaminated. A case in point is Rosie Ruiz being declared the female winner of the 1980 Boston Marathon. However, eight days later she was stripped of her title when it was learned that she had jumped into a group of runners near the end of the race, thus appearing to finish first among all other female runners. Similarly, since evolution has no basis in science/reality, the evidence offered in its support is also tainted. The proliferation of these evidences of materialistic naturalism is received from multiple disciplines including anthropology, biology, and sociology and trumpeted as fact by a compliant media. This is reminiscent of the Germany’s Minister of Propaganda, Joseph Goebbels, who was attributed to have said, “If a lie is repeated often enough, it becomes the truth.” Furthermore, it is the skeptics who consistently point to evidences that are rather “high on the evolutionary tree,” e.g., dinosaurs, Darwin’s finches, ape men, etc., thus avoiding its many fatal foundational flaws in their theory. The following examples are offered to illustrate the various forms of manipulation/deception used by proponents of the evolutionary storyline:

- The Use of Circular Reasoning – Evolution’s storyline theoretically results in “missing links” between the great apes and man. In this regard, evolutionary scientists spend considerable time, effort and monetary resources seeking to discover and offer these nonexistent creatures as absolute proof of the truth of their theory. This is a curious construal since normally science uses observations to develop hypotheses; however, in contrast, evolutionary scientists seek data to prove their previously assumed theory. Therefore, it is not surprising that the delusion of “missing links” is fraught with a history of mistaken identities (Orce Man and Nebraska Man), modern men (Neanderthal Man, Cro-Magnon Man and Java Man), a deliberate fraud (Piltdown Man) and numerous cases of extinct monkeys, (Lucy and Australopithecus sediba), etc.
- Creating History – Archeological research, as interpreted via evolution’s storyline, suggests that the Stone Age characterized by the use of hand-made tools was from 3.4 million years ago to 8700 BC. This perspective is based wholly on the belief that the unprovable theory of evolution represents fact. Interestingly, the history channel features an ongoing series devoted to the theme of “ancient aliens” who are characterized as being responsible for the architectural structures, inventions and the ingenuity of early man.

- Revising History –Dragons of history, first called dinosaurs [terrible lizards] by Richard Owens in 1841, were faithfully documented throughout the history of man via artifacts, drawings and ancient literature; however, with the rewriting of history in the early 1900’s and in the support of Darwinian Theory, dragons were relegated to a mythical status.
- Picturing the Unexplainable – The March of Progress, commissioned by Time-Life Books in 1965, depicts 15 proposed evolutionary forebears of man marching in parade said to represent 25 million years of human evolution.
- Rescue Devices – Given the fact that comets last less than 100,000 years, to support the universe being “millions of years” old, Dr. Oort theorized that new comets are created in a region beyond Neptune. This contrived “Oort cloud” is yet to be discovered.
- Ignoring Conflicting Results. - Contradictory data clearly demonstrates that a premise or theory is false. Evolution is predicated on life forms requiring extensive spans of time for new species to develop; however, when it is found that fossils claimed to be “millions of years” old show little or no variance from their counterparts living today, evolutionary scientists simply apply the term “stasis” meaning that no notable change has been noted, thus rationalizing their incoherent findings. Additionally, the Cambrian explosion has confirmed that layers just above the Earth’s bedrock contain 26 phyla of complex plants and animals. This proliferation of life defies the long time spans required by evolution’s storyline for the emergence of life. Lastly, thousands of trees called polystrate fossils have been discovered in an upright position, protruding through supposedly “millions of years” of sedimentary rock. This is an obvious impossibility, again undermining the “deep time” scenario of evolution since trees do not grow within the time frame claimed by evolution’s proposed time clock. All of these evidences undermine the evolutionary timeline but provide valid support for the global Genesis Flood.
- Falsifying Data – All vertebrates (birds, whales, horses, cats, dogs, etc.) have forelimbs which have the same basic arrangement of their fundamental parts – humerus, radius, ulna, carpels, metacarpal and phalanges. The evolutionist views these similarities as the result of evolutionary history, the similar structures resulting from the common ancestry of these creatures. This similarity is called homology and the similarly designed structures are said to be homologous. An alternative interpretation of these similarities is that they are the product of a common designer using a generalized plan with specific modifications to produce efficient motion in different modes and media. With this in mind, Ernst Haeckel created a series of drawings of vertebrate embryos and compared them to that of the embryo of man. He then offered these drawings as evidence for identical embryonic development in support of evolution. When in 1915 it was found that his drawings were fraudulent, Haeckel was dismissed from his professorship at the University of Hamburg in Germany. But that’s not the end of the story, for along with Frederick Nietzsche, Haeckel had a significant influence in Germany during World War II by providing a rational for Adolf Hitler’s fanatic desire to create a “master race” by the savaging of the Jewish and Slavic peoples, basing his effort on Darwin’s premise of the “survival of the most fit.”

Unfortunately, we still occasionally find Haeckel's drawings of embryos in textbooks today, leading one to wonder if these writers are unfamiliar with their topic or simply include this discredited evidence because they have nothing better to offer in support of their false theory.

Another example of fabricated evidence is the Piltdown man which was proudly presented within the British Museum from 1912 to 1953 as an example of a "missing link" between the great apes and modern man. This artifact was ultimately examined by three forensic scientists and declared to be a hoax. The Piltdown fabrication provided generations with false evidence for evolution's theory, but was little more than a poorly executed combination of recent bones including parts of a human skull and the jaw bone of a chimpanzee.

Lastly, a very recent example of fraudulent behavior was offered by the once respected and flamboyant German anthropologist, Professor Reiner Protsch. His distinguished career ended when in 2004 it was discovered that he had systematically falsified data. Professor Protsch passed off fake fossils as genuine, plagiarized the work of others and forged and manipulated scientific facts concerning Neanderthals for over 30 years. This supposed expert in C-14 dated two specimens at 21,300 and 27,400 years; however, a later reexamination of the artifacts yielded dates of 3,300 and 260 years respectively. Within the last decade, a flood of documentation has surfaced showing that Neanderthals were not the subhuman creatures transitioning between apes and humans as claimed by evolutionary scientists, but were fully human. Findings suggest that the Neanderthals mated with humans indicating commonality between species and their DNA was at least 99.7% comparable to humans living today. Additionally, they buried their dead, employed language, played musical instruments and had a complex social structure, all common to mankind. This story regarding Neanderthals documents yet another fraud perpetrated by evolutionary scientists.

- Fallacies in Thinking. – Astrophysicist Jason Lisle, deeply involved in the creation-evolution debate, argues that order, logic and morality in the universe, nature and man provide evidence of the of God's unchangeable nature. This is in contrast with the incoherence of the theory of evolution, a philosophy which depends of the pre-existence of matter, chance events, the driving force of nature and "millions of years" to accomplish the incoherent process of evolution. Lisle clearly demonstrates that the laws of logic are rooted in the perfect nature of God, being a reflection of how God thinks. In this regard, his primary point is that the tactic of skeptic in basing their theory on chance events and simultaneously using God's order and logic to pursue their scientific pursuits is patently contradictory. Therefore, evolutionary scientists, by their own admission, provide evidential proof of their support for a false theory. Although creationists may also fall into the trap of using fallacious logic, for skeptics this pattern is fundamental to the defense of their evolutionary storyline.

- Evolution is presented as a Fact – Although evolution is an unproven theory, the most prominent argument used by skeptics is that it is a fact, and in their defense, they typically use statements such as “the evidence speaks for itself.” In this regard, they employ a variety of techniques to support their incoherent perspective. With their dependence on “Mother Nature” and natural selection, nature is ascribed human attributes which makes effective poetry but is not valid science. The “straw-man fallacy” is frequently used to misrepresent an opponent’s position, e.g., “Creationist’s do not believe that animals change, therefore they maintain an invalid belief regarding origins. An evolutionary creationist, similar to a skeptic, may offer also offer a reasoned perspective, e.g., “We must always compare our interpretation of Scripture with the science of nature” in deconstructing the Scriptural narrative.
- Use of “Magic Words” or “Magic Thoughts” to Communicate Conjecture. – Biologos, a website dedicated to evolutionary creationism, is an excellent example of this technique as documented by this quote, “Despite massive improbabilities, the properties of the universe appear to be fine-tuned for human life.” Similarly, the “professional writings” of skeptics use “magic words,” i.e., such as “arose, appeared, emerged, manifested itself, and burst on the scene.” However, an assertion that is particularly humorous in this regard is “the invisible finger of evolution.”

The bottom line is that materialistic naturalism is based on four pillars, i.e., matter, nature, chance events and “millions of years.” It is an undeniable fact that not one of these has any power to produce an evolutionary progress. Therefore, the only rational in claiming the validity of these constructs, as previously presented, is to offer the foregoing “fruit of the poisonous tree.” At this point of departure, we will now examine the total lack of validity and reliability of each of these constructs.

Materialism has been supported by the likes of Charles Darwin and his theory of natural selection; Karl Marx and his historical materialism which has the purpose of replacing capitalism with socialism; and Sigmund Freud, given his account of the historical development of personality relative to the id, ego, and superego, the latter of which purports to offer a socially-grounded rationale for man’s inborn sense of morality. Due to these pioneering evolutionists and that of their followers, design has been characterized as an illusion linked to the delusional belief in a god figure. Conversely, Newton with his landmark work on gravity, clarified the anthropic principle of fine-tuning as it related to planetary motion, offering a clear case for the reality of the supernatural within nature. Similarly, modern man understands the incredible degree of fine-tuning that is necessary to support life on this planet Earth, all of this clearly illustrating the existence of design and ruling out chance as a creative mechanism. The death knell of materialism is that, from a scientific perspective, matter is not self-existent. Evolutionists have vacillated between an eternal universe and a universe that has a beginning based on the pre-existence of matter, as is the case with the Big Bang, both depending on the pre-existence of matter. Therefore, since science does

not and cannot support the pre-existence of matter, materialism has no foundation via the rational laws of science.

Probability is a measure of chance and the likelihood of tangible events taking place, e.g., a numeral appearing on the roll of a die or a particular team winning a football game, etc. However, an event that has never been observed is by its very nature a phantom event, e.g., the spontaneous generation of matter and speciation, the development of a completely new and separate species. When skeptics talk about chance events propelling their theory of evolution, they are invoking an unsubstantiated event in support of a scientific theory. Geisler and Turek dealt with this matter in their recent book, namely *I Don't Have Enough Faith to Be an Atheist*. Nonetheless, it is reported that 95% of scientists believe that evolution is a valid construct. Unfortunately, their false theory has also impacted churches with percentages of members ascribing to their false perspective as follows: 77 % of those of Jewish faith, 58 % of Catholics, 51 % of Protestants, and 24% of evangelicals. These results offer a clear barometer regarding a particular religious group's adherence to the inspired and inerrant Word of God.

Given the evolutionary process, nature is said to act along with chance as a "blind" process responsible for life as it exists on Earth. Research regarding chemical evolution has come to a dead end. The complexity of the process of protein synthesis contradicts any possibility of chemical evolution. At the time of Darwin, the cell was described as simple; however, that is no longer the case with cells containing incredible miniature machines and marvelous modes of active transport, therefore being incredibly complex. Within this context, the discovery of DNA revealed that the informational coding system of DNA is a language which can only occur as a result of intelligence, not chance events. From this point on, it was understood that the random events ascribed to natural and materialistic causes had no rational basis. Geneticists were then "trapped" into admitting that design was not the result of a chance events, but authentic evidence of a designer; therefore, in one fell swoop both nature and chance were discredited as possessing not creative powers.

All of that does not matter to the secularist, since these protectionists are well aware that the ID movement offers proof of a Designer God and therefore must be rebutted at all costs. Add to this Hubble's finding that the universe is expanding and therefore has a beginning and a cause. These realizations bring us to the words of Paul in Romans 1:20, "For his invisible attributes, namely his eternal power and divine nature have been clearly perceived ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse. For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened."

But what about the extended periods of time or the "millions of years" that function in rationalizing evolution's storyline. Much contrary evidence exists in this regard including: 1) The existence of soft tissue in dinosaur bones and many organic finds in fossils for which there is no answer in science in addition to the sightings and artifacts throughout history with regard to these dinosaurs. This is vitally important evidence since skeptics claim dinosaurs are prehistoric creatures living from 230 to 65 million years ago and then died out as more highly developed life

forms evolved. 2) The scientific dating of volcanic sites with known ages in the hundreds of years having consistently reported radiometric dating ages in the ranges of “millions of years,” thus invalidating the dating techniques used with rock materials by evolutionary paleontologists. 3) The carbon 14 testing of organic materials such as wood, coal and diamonds associated with rock formations presumed to be “millions of years” old consistently yielding results within a young Earth time perspective. Thus, numerous valid evidences contradict the mantra of “millions of years” offered as undeniable truth to the common man by evolutionary paleontologists and the mainstream media. 4) Due to the many problems related to the validity and reliability of the deep time scenario that supports evolution, a cooperative research venture between the Institution for Creation Research (ICR), the Creation Research Society (CRS) and Creation Ministries International (CMI) was initiated in 1997 incurring a cost of about \$2 million. It examined helium retention in zircon crystals found in pre-Cambrian granite that had been previously dated at 1.5 billion years according to current standard dating techniques. In stark contrast, as based on the amount of helium retained within the zircon crystals, an estimated age of 6000 ± 2000 years was attained. This data strongly supports the consideration that highly accelerated nuclear decay occurred in a mere few thousand years; furthermore, this abbreviated time span supports the Genesis narrative and offers powerful evidence contradicting the “millions of years” scenario required to support evolution’s theory, and 5) A last supposed mainstay for “millions of years” is the geologic column. In this charade, paleontologists use rock materials to date fossils and fossils to date rock materials based on the proposed dates ascribed to the evolutionary process. This example of circular reasoning is but another example of baseless evidence for a false and incoherent theory.

It was the genius of Charles Lyell who popularized the idea of “millions of years” which offered superficial feasibility to Darwin’s theory of evolution. This concept of extended periods of time is a major king pin for the theory as Daniel Biddle’s research reported in the February 2017 article of *Answers* (published by AiG) illustrated. Their study of individuals aged 14-24 examined what they believed were the best evidences supporting evolution. The rationale offered by 72% of this research group included human evolution, evolutionary theory, fossils & transitions and science in general. This study dramatically demonstrated the integral link between Darwinian Theory and Lyell’s contribution of “millions of years.”

Not surprisingly, there are a number of examples of science supporting the young Earth time frame provided by Scripture, contesting Lyell’s contention of “millions of years.” One involves the fact that evolutionists claim that man evolved from the great apes about a million years ago. Given the compounding of population growth of just 0.01 % per year, this representing a low estimate, one would rightly expect that there would be approximately 10^{43} people on the Earth today. Putting that number into perspective, the Earth’s land surface is only of 1.5×10^{14} square meters. The Earth currently has about six billion people in contrast the preposterous number required if evolution is true. In contrast to the astronomical number by the evolutionary perspective, the biblical narrative offers a very realistic picture regarding the Earth’s current population. Following the Genesis flood about 4,500 years ago, there were only eight people on

the Earth including Noah, his three sons and their wives. The present number of six billion people fits well with the narrative offered in Scripture.

A second example of science supporting the biblical time frame comes from studies in genetic entropy. This concept involves the increased disorder via mutations found within the human genome. The measurement of time, in this regard, involves mitochondria, the small organelles outside the cell's nucleus containing their own DNA separate from that of the cell nucleus. The mutation rate of female mitochondrial DNA can be documented and therefore analyzed to produce a molecular-based genetic clock. Research in this regard has confirmed a date of creation of not more than 10,000 years ago, fitting well within the young Earth time frame, not "millions of years" as claimed by proponents of evolution. The analysis of human genetic data also supports the existence of a single pair of humans who lived less than in 10,000 years ago, not pre-human creatures that evolved into modern man.

The foregoing documentation demonstrates that of four pillars supporting the theory of evolution - matter, nature, chance and "millions of years," that not even one of these constructs has any valid basis in science therefore exemplifying that this theory is without any redeeming value, having no rational basis. Furthermore, scientific data such as population growth and genetic entropy support the premise that man lived within a biblical time frame, not having evolved over vast amounts of time as required by Darwin's theory of evolution. The truth is that evolution is not based on science, but on secular humanism, a deceitful and godless philosophy created by man in his prideful rejection of his Creator-God.

Chapter 9

The Foundational Validity and Reliability of Scripture

Unlike all other philosophies including secular humanism which embraces atheism, evolution, immorality, human autonomy and ultimately globalism, Christianity as defined within Holy Scripture offers the only truly coherent philosophy, being a worldview that fits the facts, is not contradictory and is also useful for life. The Bible records the world's history in terms of events of historical, political, geographical and archeological realities. Although written over a span of 1500 years by 40 different writers and completed by the end of the first century, the people, places and events recorded in the Bible are consistently validated by archeological finds and scientific research. Additionally, unlike the evolutionary perspective of the "survival of the fittest" which supports genocide, abortion and euthanasia, God's law as found in Holy Scripture and written in the heart of man respects the lives of every person, offering a philosophy that is in concert with the code of morality germane to all civil societies.

Starting with Genesis, it is clear that God "created" (made out of nothing) matter, energy, light, space, and time, this supernatural event producing a fine-tuned and ordered universe. God created man "in his own image," having a free will like God himself and being a little lower than the angels and having consciousness, feelings and unique intellectual, physical characteristics and possessing the spiritual dimension of a soul and that following death, having the potential of living with God throughout all eternity. We are also well aware of the moral law placed in the heart of man by God himself, the ultimate Law Giver. Scripture explains how man's fractured relationship with God through his disobedience forever altered man's perfect existence leading to disorder for man, the Earth and the universe. While Adam's "original sin" changed his relationship with God and that of all mankind thereafter, God promised a Savior-Redeemer from man's lost condition. Therefore, if man believes and accepts God's sacrifice, a symbol of the depth of God's love and compassion for man, by placing his faith in Jesus Christ, man will receive forgiveness of his sins and ultimately live with God in heaven throughout all eternity. Atheist and astronomer Sir Fred Hoyle has succinctly summed up the foundational problem with materialistic naturalism in his back-door endorsement of the supernatural using these words: "Commonsense interpretation of the facts is that a super-intelligence has monkeyed with physics and as well as with chemistry and biology, and that there are no blind forces in nature."

In addition to the creation account, another “bone of contention” for proponents of evolution is Scripture’s narrative regarding the global Genesis Flood. Pivotal to evolutionary theory is the necessity of requiring “millions of years” for the “chance events” of this process to have taken place, thus providing it a cloak of feasibility to the process or as a skeptic would say, “Given enough time everything will happen.” The dogma commonly referred to as uniformitarianism proposes that the current Earth’s geological and weathering processes are essentially comparable to those that have occurred in the past. This assertion is an attempt to relegate the global Genesis Flood to just another case of mythology found within Scripture. Arguments regarding this matter have gone back and forth between creationists and proponents of evolution for almost two centuries in spite of a preponderance of evidence supporting the Genesis flood. These evidences include the worldwide distribution of fossils with this confirmation being found even on the tops of mountains, an absence of undisputed transitional fossils, massive deposits of oil and coal, expansive megasequences of sedimentary rock across and traversing continents and up to twenty-four animal phyla in the Cambrian layers of the Earth’s surface with no ancestral forms found in lower rock layers. Even Darwin decried this problematic matter related to the Cambrian explosion, understanding that it was a fatal flaw to his theory. With regard to fossil formation, it is a fact that with the death of an animal in the wild, the activity of scavengers and decomposers will soon completely destroy all evidence of its existence. The massive fossil beds of our Earth can only be produced by a catastrophic worldwide event like the Genesis flood offered in Scripture.

Chapter 10

The Power of the Supernatural in Refuting Evolution

The existence of the supernatural has been rejected out of hand by materialistic naturalists since their philosophy demands that nature alone is responsible for everything. However, the theory of evolution has unsurmountable problems since the supernatural, in addition to being found in Scripture via miracles, is evidenced in profound ways outside of Scripture, rendering evolution's foundational premise of nature's sole role in the creation of life invalid. Examples of the supernatural in the universe include the existence of matter, order, fine-tuning, design and the beauty of nature on our planet Earth. Furthermore, the evolutionary storyline violates valid laws of science including the Law of Conservation of matter, entropy and biogenesis. Many distinctly human phenomena are beyond a materialistic explanation. These include man's sense of morality, his reasoning, consciousness, speech and emotions. Therefore, a first step in engaging adolescents and adults in rationally dealing with and immunizing them against evolution's corrupt storyline is to challenge evolution's foundational premises by illustrating that it is an incoherent and contradictory theory due to the fact that the signature of God, namely supernatural events, are an undeniable reality. So just as proponents of evolution consider Genesis 1-11 to represent allegory/poetry, so also creationists must go on the offensive by questioning the foundational elements of evolution, i.e., the phantom explanation for the existence of matter, the role of nature in the evolutionary process, chance events producing design and the "millions of years" required by the process, thereby demonstrating the contradictory nature of their humanistic worldview. This approach will lead to establishing the supernatural as an absolute fact and displacing the fabricated philosophy of evolution to the deceitful status it deserves. Lastly, one must then present a philosophy that adequately answers the basic questions of life, this being the Word of God in Scripture. A valid philosophy must answer questions similar to the following:

- What is the origin of matter, the universe and nature?
- What is the source of order, logic, fine-tuning and design in the universe?
- What is the origin of life?
- What is the basis of man's ability to reason and of his consciousness and feelings?
- How and why do man and animals differ?
- What is the source of disorder in man and nature?

- What is the origin of morality?
- If God truly exists, why is there so much evil in the world?
- What is man's purpose on the planet Earth?
- What is man's ultimate value beyond his earthly existence?

A Skeptic Responds To Life's Basic Questions

- What is the origin of matter, the universe and nature? Science has no answer for the source of the material fundamental to their storyline of origins, e.g., the "Big Bang," for the concept of "nothingness becoming something" makes absolutely no sense. However, with matter being foundational to origins, skeptics would claim that this question will "eventually" be answered by science.
- What is the source of order, logic, fine-tuning and design in the universe? In an effort to reject the Designer God, evolutionary scientists have postulated a multivariate universe, meaning that given the vastness of the universe, there is the "likelihood" that the fine-tuned conditions on Earth being just right for sustaining life occurred solely on the basis of chance as occurred here on Earth, thus denying design, order and the need for fine-tuning.
- What is the origin of life? Although the law of biogenesis states that non-life does not produce life, an evolutionist would claim that the origin of life is not currently fully understood and that operational science will eventually answer this question.
- What is the basis of man's consciousness, ability to reason and feelings? These types of questions will be ignored by evolutionists since there is no materialistic explanation for these intrinsic functions of man other than their resulting from a supernatural origin.
- How and why do man and animals differ? – The skeptic would state that man represents the highest level of evolutionary development in the animal kingdom, there being no fundamental difference between man and the less evolved creatures, e.g., the great apes.
- How can one explain man's numerous forms of creative activity, e.g., artificial intelligence and many other ingenious inventions, culture, music and the arts, on the basis of man's theory of evolution? Proponents of evolution would defer from attempting to explain such phenomena since offering any reasonable explanation would require invoking a supernatural origin.
- What is the source of disorder in man and nature? Proponents of evolution report that disorder in man and the universe are a consequence of mutations and the struggle for survival.
- What is the origin of morality – Based on the "survival of the fittest," a skeptic would deny the existence of morality and a Creator-God since it is their only default. The humanist manifesto of 1933 proposed that the universe is self-existing and not created and that man is a part of nature, having emerged as a result of a continuous process. The ramification of this philosophy is that by excluding the supernatural God of Scripture, man develops his own criteria for morality based on his emerging

social experiments and not on God's rules. A very tragic example of how this belief has played out in the past would be Adolph Hitler's effort to create a "master race" by systematically attempting to eliminate the Jewish and Slavic people groups. Corrie ten Boom, a Dutch activist who harbored Jewish citizens during the Nazi occupation of the Netherlands quoted Zachariah 2:7-8 in expressing the absolute depravity of this situation, "Deliver thyself, O Zion, that dwellest with the daughter of Babylon. For thus saith the LORD of hosts; 'After the glory hath he sent me unto the nations which spoiled you: for he that toucheth you toucheth the apple of his eye.'"

- If God truly exists, why is there so much evil in the world? Proponents of evolution would flatly deny the existence of evil, claiming evil does not exist and life evolved on the basis of animal instincts via natural selection and the "survival of the fittest."
- What is man's purpose on the planet Earth? Atheists such as Frederick Nietzsche, Arthur Schopenhauer and Richard Dawkins would assert that man has no value, no purpose, no life after death and therefore life has no implicit meaning.
- What is man's ultimate value beyond his earthly existence? Man would be characterized as having no lasting worth and no alternative existence following death.

Scripture's Response to Life's Basic Questions

A valid philosophy must adequately answer the basic questions of life. Unlike philosophies formulated by man, Holy Scripture offers a worldview that is consistent with the facts, non-contradictory and useful in life as here documented:

- The origin of matter, the universe, nature and man. - God created matter from absolutely nothing as documented by the Hebrew word "bara" in Genesis 1:1 meaning create or more specifically, "to make from nothing."
- The source of logic, order, fine-tuning and design in the universe and within man. - The holy and omnipotent Creator-God accounts all of these conditions by his perfect creation of the universe, nature and man. Evolutionary scientists use logic and order in their scientific pursuits, but demand that only chance events exist. This is nonsense since skeptics are using God's created logic in their day to day scientific efforts while at the same time denying God's existence. Their contradictory behavior proves they are trapped by their pride and unbelief in a false and incoherent theory.
- The origin of life. - God alone is the creator of all things. Using non-living matter plus chance events to produce life and complex organisms violates Louis Pasteur's scientific law of biogenesis which states that only life produces life.
- Man's ability to reason and his consciousness and feelings. - These are non-material phenomena and cannot result from matter. Man and his incredible abilities and design are the result of an all-powerful, all-knowing, all loving, supernatural God.
- How and why do man and animals differ? - Man differs from the animals because man, unlike the animals, man was created "in God's image" and capable of having a relationship

with God, a free will and the ability to reason, to speak and was given dominion over the Earth and its creatures.

- The source disorder in man and nature. - Man, having a free will, disobeyed God's law and brought disorder, disease, pain and death to man and his helpmate, the woman.
- The origin of morality. - Matter does not create non-material outcomes; these cannot result from the process of evolution. Morality was implanted in man by God who created man as being perfect in every way, just as God is perfect.
- If God truly exists, why is there so much evil in the world? - Man has a free will to either follow God's rules in loving God and his fellow man or in his pride to reject God's commands by making his own rules. Therefore, evil is not the result of a perfect God but rather an outcome of man's fall into sin and its consequences including disease, disorder and death which affect man and also results in a disordered world.
- Man's relationship with his Creator and his purpose on the planet Earth. - God seeks a relationship with man here in time and also in eternity. God's gift to man is to be shared with others so they may also understand God's truth in Scripture and his love for man and claim heaven as their own.
- Man's ultimate value beyond his earthly existence. - Man's lasting value is to understand God's unfathomable love for man and sharing that precept with others.

In summary, in dealing with the adult mind in terms of the creation-evolution debate, it is imperative that proponents of the Scriptural narrative move beyond the self-imposed boundary of only presenting fact-based evidence from Scripture to validate the existence of the supernatural, e.g. Jesus turning water into wine at the wedding of Cana, his walking on water on the Sea of Galilee, and Christ's resurrection from the dead, etc. Since skeptics dogmatically cling to the perspective that nature is the sole force accounting for the origin of the universe and life on Earth, the reality that the supernatural exists outside of Scripture is not only an anathema to these secularists, but also the death nil to their theory. Materialistic naturalism must relegate Scripture to be little more than a collection of stories and myths created by ancient man, for if they admit that the supernatural exists, God exists and if God exists their worldview is false, being null and void. Therefore, since their theory has no basis in reality, the only possible tact of an evolutionary scientist is to contrive and fabricate an explanation to support their deceitful theory. In going on the offensive, a powerful tact for creationists is to present evidence outside of Scripture in establishing the validity of the supernatural including the existence of matter, design and fine tuning of the universe, design in nature in addition to its beauty, man's incredible gifts as evidenced in his non-material aspects including consciousness, reason, feelings, speech and morality. This evidence has the force of undermining the foundation of both the philosophies of materialism and naturalism and relegating evolution to being little more than a contradictory and false philosophy. With this being established, all of the upper level arguments relating to evolution including prehistoric dinosaurs, radiometric dating, the geologic column and "missing links" amid

a myriad of other phantom proofs become totally irrelevant. Having no foundation, the incoherent theory of evolution can be simply cast aside as the meaningless theory that it is.

The foundational issue in ministry is to offer a valid, reliable and coherent philosophy that answers all of life's most relevant questions. With a careful examination of Scripture, one will discover as many have before, that Scripture clearly fulfills these criteria unlike any other worldview. As previously stated, a key in this regard is to clarify the reality that the supernatural does exist as the signature of God found in the universe, nature and in the crown of his creation, man. This approach deposes materialism and naturalism as pseudo-science and a man-made philosophy. Lastly, the God of Scripture is clearly identified as the Creator, Designer and Law-Giver of the universe.

Chapter 11

God's Goodness in the Face of Man's Pain and Suffering

As the prideful mind of man drifts off into that nebula of engaging human reason to assess Scripture, the question of why a good God would allow so much pain and suffering, e.g., either by virtue of human disease/disorders or being cast upon man via the torrents of nature, persists in the minds of many. In contemplating such matters, it is the belief of some that a "good god" would not permit the catastrophic physical illnesses that occur with some or the natural disasters that devastate the lives of many others. James Dobson of Focus on the Family, a child psychologist, not a theologian, even wrote a book dealing with this matter, namely *When God Does Not Make Sense*. Skeptics would claim that pain and suffering represent clear evidence that either God does not exist or that he is unloving, having no demonstrated concern for mankind as evidenced by his not intervening in the many tragic events affecting man.

In dealing with the problem of pain due to the death of his mother at an early age and the death of his wife, Joy, C. S. Lewis characterized pain and suffering as God's megaphone leading man to a life of faith and directing him to realize he has needs beyond his own personage. Here Lewis observed that Christians are frequently confronted with how Scripture reminds us of God's unfailing love, e.g., Psalm 136:26 shares this thought, "Give thanks to the God of heaven, for his steadfast love endures forever." What is typically lost in this and the analysis of skeptics is that man is wholly responsible for his pain and suffering by his initial rejection of God's law in the Garden of Eden. Imbedded in Genesis 3:19 passage, "Thou art dust and unto dust thou shalt return" is not only God's curse resulting from man's sin inherited as "original sin," but also the ongoing decay in the universe. Regarding this matter Hebrews 1:10-12 offers this explanation: "You, Lord, in the beginning laid the foundation of the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands. They will perish, but you remain; and they will all grow old like a garment; like a cloak you will fold them up, and they will be changed. But you are the same, and your years will not fail." Of course, with C. S. Lewis' viewpoint that the creation narrative in Genesis is allegory, he would of necessity, be required to seek an alternative explanation circumventing original sin resulting in the pain and suffering for mankind.

This matter of man suffering due to original sin should not be confused with suffering at the hands of sinful mankind due to one's faith. Early in New Testament times, the Roman emperors routinely perpetrated massive atrocities on Christians. The author of Hebrews 12:5-6

clarifies this as follows “And have you forgotten the exhortation that addresses you as sons? ‘My son, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord, nor be weary when reproved by him. For the Lord disciplines the one he loves and chastises every son whom he receives.’” In this matter, history in a small way is repeating itself as is occurring with the growing hostility of the humanistic culture in America toward Christianity as it strides toward globalism.

With skeptics, it is a given that issues regarding origins are only answered using causes based on materialistic naturalism; however, if one is serious in seeking the truth, there is no rationale for the non-material aspects of man, morality, the ability to reason, consciousness and feelings emerging from matter. In the case of inflexible scientism, materialistic science is viewed as the only method of gaining knowledge. Conversely, God through the apostle Paul offers this verdict to scientism in II Thessalonians 2:9-11, “The coming of the lawless one is by the activity of Satan with all power and false signs and wonders, and with all wicked deception for those who are perishing, because they refused to love the truth and so be saved. Therefore, God sends them a strong delusion, so that they may believe what is false, in order that all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness.” Yet a cautionary note is offered here because, for some, evolution is a misunderstanding or lack of contact with the truth, but unfortunately for others, it is a contradictory and false philosophy representing an unshakable worldview. Furthermore, the incongruence of an atheist’s stand in calling God either unloving as unfortunate events happen such as diseases or tragic natural events, is patently disingenuous. For with skeptics invoking a value judgment directed toward the holy God of Scripture, they are admitting their awareness of God’s standard of morality, but in their prideful nature, they “out of hand” reject both morality and God himself.

Chapter 12

Purposeful Apologetics

Apologetics is a term derived from the Greek word “apologia,” meaning to defend. Holy Scripture directs us to defend our faith in Jesus Christ with all meekness and humility as stated in I Peter 3:15 “... always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect.” Furthermore, James 1:19-20 amplifies this admonition by instructing Christians to use listening ears in engaging others, “Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, because human anger does not produce the righteousness that God desires.” The clear purpose of Christian apologetics is to remove impediments to the Gospel message and build bridges so that others understand and appreciate God’s message to sinful mankind and ultimately come to faith in the omnipotent God of Scripture, their Savior Jesus Christ.

In the 2018 May-June issue of the *Answers* magazine of AiG, Tom Sort, who has spent over 35 years in campus evangelism, commented that the most common excuses students give for not believing in God is evolution. In his ministry, he takes to heart the thought offered in Isaiah 55:11, “so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.” His tips for evangelizing include speaking with confidence and patience in freely sharing the Gospel and Scripture understanding that there is nothing wrong with occasionally not knowing an answer. He indicated that within this ministry process, building relationships and praying with people is an important avenue in touching the lives of hearers. John Warwick Montgomery, a Lutheran theologian, described the task of a Christian apologist as embracing three major activities: 1) correcting misconceptions concerning faith related issues, 2) refuting the fallacies and unworthiness of opposing positions, and 3) offering the truth of the Gospel message of Scripture.

In offering his message of salvation, Jesus frequently used parables to paint pictures in the minds of hearers enabling his listeners to visualize and understand his message. Christ used parables to both instruct and rebuke; these 46 visually based metaphors are found in the synoptic Gospels, namely Matthew, Mark and Luke. They represented a powerful tool in helping hearers focus in and recall pertinent aspects of vital Scriptural truths. Simply put, Christ’s parables are earthly stories with heavenly meanings drawn from the everyday life experiences of those in his audience. In understanding that many of those who followed him were not interested in the truth, beginning in the third year of his public ministry, Christ began using parables. Matthew 13:13

explained this matter as follows, “Therefore I speak to them in parable, because seeing they do not see, and hearing they do not hear, nor do they understand.” In addition to dealing with the kingdom of heaven, the nature of God and seeking after God, Jesus frequently used parables to focus in on human needs such as compassion (the Good Samaritan) and forgiveness (money lender) and the fragilities of mankind, e.g., pride (the Pharisee and tax collector) and greed (the rich man).

In sharing his Holy Word, God engaged flawed mankind. Hippocrates, in his characterization of temperaments, described both the strengths (gifts) and weakness of these patterns of inborn personal engagement. For example, the choleric temperament of Paul was that of a fast-paced and determined individual who is goal-orientated, self-confident, competitive, courageous, results-orientated, and straightforward in his communication. It is no accident that Christ chose this vessel to share God’s message with the ancient world following his ascension. Of course, choleric also have weaknesses in terms of being proud, domineering, inconsiderate, unforgiving and lacking empathy. The sanguine or interactive temperament of Peter has the strengths of being fast-paced, people-orientated, talkative, optimistic, and spontaneous; weaknesses include being restless, undisciplined, indecisive, and being self-serving. The slow-paced temperaments include the phlegmatic and melancholics, with Abraham and Moses and the prophets respectively, serving as examples. Abraham’s people-orientated temperament is characterized as operating as a team player and being humble, pragmatic, persistent and committed to rendering service, whereas weaknesses include being unmotivated, indecisive, fearful and self-serving. Lastly, Moses and the prophets, designated as melancholics, are conscientious and goal-oriented individuals characterized as being attentive to details, cautious, self-disciplined, highly intuitive and analytical. So, with this collection of Bible-based personages, given their diversity of gifts, we have leaders, builders, speakers, salesmen, diplomats, teachers, philosophers, professors and musicians, all to the glory of God. And throughout Scripture, we see the development of these individuals’ strengths directed toward God’s ministry as well as their inherit weaknesses, testifying to the stark honesty found within the pages of Holy Scripture.

In terms of temperaments, Paul in I Corinthians 12:7-11 spoke about the spiritual gifts God has given to man to carry out the ministry to souls, these including faith, knowledge, discernment, wisdom etc. along with discussing the unity in the body of Christ. He also emphasized the diverse gifts in ministry through apostles, prophets, teachers, etc. In chapter 13:4-7 of I Corinthians, Paul shares this wisdom as follows, “Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.” It is interesting how Paul, once an aggressive self-righteous Pharisee, was transformed through the Gospel of Jesus Christ to be God’s patient messenger of salvation to the souls he encountered in his ministry in spite of the many hardships he endured for the name of Jesus Christ. Being well acquainted with Roman soldiers, via his various imprisonments, Paul offered this formula in Ephesians 6:13-17 regarding the armor of God which includes the breastplate of truth, Gospel of peace, shield of faith, helmet of salvation, sword

of the Spirit (Word of God). Furthermore, his changed life was proclaimed in Galatians 5:22-23 as Paul describes true freedom in these words, “But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.” The parallel in the lives of Paul and Peter, having contradictory temperaments in many ways, is that they both were martyred in Rome under Nero as were many other Christians. Given the roles of proclaiming, teaching, ministering and counseling, it is vitally important that we as vessels of the Word, understand not only the strengths and weaknesses of the souls served, but also how these characteristics relate to each of us personally.

Within the counseling process, it is necessary for a skeptic to rationally think through his system of beliefs. Questions that probe his philosophy and illustrate its incoherent nature are an important strategy in generating conversation and stimulating self-reflection in others. Similar to Christ’s use of parables in creating a mental image, so also the self-reflection for some will ultimately lead them to examining the truth of God’s message in Scripture and accepting Jesus Christ as their personal Savior. The following questions point to the inadequacy of evolution’s theory but can be effectively answered when supported by a belief in the supernatural God of Scripture as the Creator, Designer and Law-Giver of the universe. Making use of these will, for some, challenge their humanistic beliefs and incoherent theory of evolution.

- What is the origin of the matter in the universe?
- How did time and space come into existence?
- How was non-living matter transformed into life forms?
- How do chance events produce the incredible design found in the universe?
- If animals evolved over “millions of years,” why do we not find thousands of the intermediates or transitional forms between species within the fossils record?
- Evolution’s theory claims dinosaurs lived from 65 to 230 million years ago. If that is true, why are we still finding soft tissue in dinosaur bones since there is no reason to believe that soft tissue can last for those incredible long periods of time?
- If evolution is a fact, why do we not see examples of evolution in terms of intermediate phases of development with species not being fully evolved?
- If man is a chemical accident as evolution claims, how can he think logically since his brain supposedly developed on the basis of random events?
- While in all civil human societies act in moral ways toward others, why do skeptics reject this reality by embracing the contradictory idea of the “survival of the fittest” which in their “dog eat dog” world rejects morality?

Appendix A

Answers to the Inservice Questionnaire

The Application of Apologetics

- What is the basic meaning of the term, “apologetics?” - It is a term which means to defend.
- Explain the interconnection between interpersonal relations and Christian apologetics. - Interactions in apologetics require the person being encountered needing to feel love and respect within that event. The intention of this process is to permit counselees to share their feelings/issues so that the counselor can understand their perspective. It is then possible to aptly answer their questions and offer guidance as is required.
- Explain the difference of dealing with children relative to apologetics in contrast to ministering to adolescences and adults. – The cognitive development of children is based on the acceptance of information as being factual; therefore, the use of the Bible story is a reasonable method of presenting the Scriptural message. However, with adolescents and adults, being inundated with the “supposed” factual storyline of evolution, it is necessary to expose the incoherent nature of this baseless philosophy.
- Why is the topic of young Earth creationism so vital with our youth? - This is because adolescents are cognitively transitioning from reasoning based on facts to a deeper understanding of intellectual matters. At this juncture, skeptics claim that Scripture and its foundation in Genesis 1-11 represents mythology in contrast to the validity and reliability of science and its predicate evolution, which, of course, is patently untrue.
- Explain a primary factor that led Christians to harmonize Scripture with the evolutionary storyline. – The concept of the “millions of years” as based on the reason of man and not the supernatural nature of God offered a “supposed” rationale for man’s theory of evolution. These Christians feel that the “millions of years” arguments are irrefutable. Of course, there are many scientific arguments against this position.

- Explain how the concept of apologetics offers a “bridge” to the lost. - In contrast to evolution’s incoherent storyline, Scripture offers a philosophy that offers a coherent rational for origins and adequately answers all of life’s most basic questions in contrast to any other philosophy.
- Explain the transition in Paul’s life from a hardened Pharisee to a messenger for Christ and the effect it had on transforming his choleric temperament. – Being trained in law [the 613 laws of the mitzvoth] as a Pharisee and possessing an aggressive nature, Paul took on the mission of rooting out the emerging sect of followers of Christ. Following his being confronted by Christ on the road to Damascus, Paul was ultimately converted to Christianity and dedicated his life to Christian mission work. The love that was shown toward Paul by God in seeking him out as his servant changed his hardened exterior into a loving and gentle carrier of Christ’s message.
- What is your primary temperament and what are the strengths and weaknesses of that dimension of personality?

Holy Scripture

- How would you summarize Scripture in one basic sentence? - Following God’s creation of a perfect universe including life and man, man’s sin caused disorder within mankind and God’s creation; however, God promised a Savior in Jesus Christ to redeem him from his sinful condition so that by accepting this promise, man can ultimately live with God throughout eternity.
- Give three examples of God as the law giver for man. - The command in the Garden of Eden to not eat of the forbidden fruit, the conscience of man and the giving of the 10 commandments on Mt. Sinai.
- What is the meaning of Genesis 3:15, “I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head and you shalt bruise his heel,” one of the most theologically significance passages of Scripture? - This passage described the hostility between the devil and the seed of the woman, Jesus Christ. It explains that in this conflict the devil will bruise Christ, but Christ will destroy the power of the devil by his sacrifice for the sins of man and therefore redeem man from his lost condition.
- When David declared in Psalm 19, “the heavens declare the glory of God,” what was he attempting to convey? - The beauty and expansiveness of the heavens show the signature of the supernatural God to all who would open their eyes to this fact.

- What is the significance or implication of passages such as Isaiah 51:6, “Lift up your eyes to the heavens, and look at the earth beneath; for the heavens vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment....?” - These passages relates to the altering of God’s perfect creation involving increasing disorder [entropy] that occurred as a result of man’s original sin.
- Matthew 19:4 and Mark 10:6 state Christ’s words as follows, “From the beginning of creation God made them, male and female.” What is Christ’s implying by this statement? - God created man during the six literal 24-hours days, not after an expansive period of time as proponents of evolution/theistic evolution claim.
- Although some would relegate selected parts of Holy Scripture to allegory, what event does the words of Christ in Matthew 12:38-40 clarify? “Then some of the scribes and Pharisees answered him, saying, ‘Teacher, we wish to see a sign from you.’ But he answered them, ‘An evil and adulterous generation seeks for a sign, but no sign will be given to it except the sign of the prophet Jonah. For just as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the great fish, so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.’” - Christ was attesting to the truth of the Old Testament Scriptures and stated that he is the fulfillment of the promise of a Redeemer for the sins of mankind.
- What is the meaning of Christ’s proclamation in John 10:35, “The Scripture cannot be broken” or II Peter 1:21 “...but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit?” - In John’s passage Christ is declaring that the Old Testament is the inerrant and inspired word of God and Peter’s reference in the New Testament confirms that all of Scripture is the true and inspired Word of God.
- What is the significance of Paul’s statement in Romans 1:20, “For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So, they are without excuse?” - The evidence for God is clearly revealed within his creation; therefore, those who in their sinful pride reject God have no justification for their unbelief.
- In addition to verbal [plenary] inspiration, explain the foundational validity and reliability of Scripture derived additional sources of evidence.
 - The Bible offers a consistent message and coherent theology and worldview unlike any document of other religions.
 - The incredible consistency within its voluminous copies of early manuscripts of the Old and New Testament demonstrate that the Scripture has been transmitted accurately.

- Archeological finds authenticate that the Bible yields information consistent with historical and geographical accounts.
- Scripture records the world's history in terms of events of historical, political, geographical and archeological realities.
- Although Scripture is not a book of science, yet it is scientifically accurate with regard to multiple areas of study including paleontology, astronomy, biology, hydrology, geology and physics, etc.
- Although the pain and suffering of mankind are often used to discredit Scripture, explain why this is a false assumption. - The pain and suffering that occurs with mankind is the result of man's sin. It is a disingenuous to blame God for a problem created by the action of man.
- Explain how truth is lost as our culture embraces the philosophies of modernism and postmodernism. - With modernism the only criteria for truth is human reason which not only excludes but also embodies hostility for God as a supernatural being whereas postmodernism is a vague philosophy based on the belief that truth does not exist.
- What is the position of the Catholic Church on evolution? Augustine, a Church father, taught that the universe had a cause [beginning]. The Church supports a real Adam and original sin, but bases its doctrine on a combination of church dogma and Scripture believing that God used nature as a secondary force in his creation of life forms including mankind in contrast to accepting the creation narrative..

Creation

- What are the primary components stated in the creation narrative in Genesis 1:1? - They are matter, energy, space, time and light.
- What is the essence of the creation narrative in one simple sentence? - God created the universe and all life therein out of absolutely nothing in 6 literal 24-hour days, the one exception being man who was created out of the dust of the ground.
- What is the meaning of Genesis 1:27 regarding man being made "in the image of God?" - Man was created like God, being perfect in every respect and having a free will and an immortal soul.
- What are the primary features that distinguish man from any other of God's creatures? - These are man's consciousness, feelings, the ability to reason, a sense of morality, an eternal soul and a raft of physical features unique only to mankind

- What is the connection between Genesis 3:19 “from dust thou art and unto dust thou shalt return” to entropy? - Before man sinned, he was perfect in every way. But with sin disorder [entropy] entered the world affecting man in terms of progressive genetic deterioration and nature with the emergence of chaotic natural events.
- What is the meaning of the term, “after their kind?” - God created life to reproduce within given parameters resulting in offspring of the same kind to their forebears; however, the parents do have a variety of genetic material offering their offspring the potential of surviving within changing environments.
- Compare Martin Luther’s perspective on the Genesis 1-3 to that of C. S. Lewis and Billy Graham. - Martin Luther, following the biblical narrative, believed that God made the universe and all within it in 6 literal 24-hour days. Lewis considered the Genesis narrative to be allegory and Graham did not take a stand one way or another on the matter of the creation account being allegory in contrast to narrative.
- What is the significance of Isaiah 55:9, “Just as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts,” with regard to the creation-evolution conflict? - In this passage God is saying that his thoughts and omnipotence trump those of mankind.
- How does theistic evolution violate the theological narrative of Genesis 1-3? - The introduction of “millions of years” into the biblical narrative is an attempt to harmonize God’s holy Word with the reasoning of man.
- Why can God not be held responsible for man’s pain and suffering and natural catastrophes? The sin of man was responsible for the genetic disorder in man and the present disorder in the world; therefore, it makes no sense to hold God responsible for these actions of sinful man.
- The claim is made by skeptics that creationism is not supported by real scientists. How would you respond to this statement? Many of the greatest scientists in the world were biblical creationists including Newton, Kepler, Boyle, Pasteur and Linnaeus. Furthermore, the fact is that evolutionary pursuits has not contributed to valid scientific findings
- Jason Lisle discussed “*The Absolute Proof of Creation*” as related to the concepts of logic, order and morality in opposition to the theory of evolution. What was he implying regarding this matter? – Lisle was referring to the fact that evolutionary scientists claim that the factors of chance events via nature over “millions of years” were responsible for the creation of the universe and life on planet Earth. He explained that to use chance as a mechanism and simultaneously employing logic in their day-to-day work activities is a

- contradictory stance since if the mind of man developed via chance events, it would be a disorganized, dysfunctional mass tissue incapable in functioning in a coherent manner. Therefore, when evolutionary scientists are working within their expertise, they are unintentionally confirming the existence of a supernatural God since their philosophy of materialistic naturalism cannot account for the logic and order required to perform their daily scientific pursuits. The truth is that they are supporting the premise that man is the result of a supernatural event by a Creator-God. Furthermore, their evolutionary theory of the “survival of the fittest” is devoid of a moral basis, this being an immaterial and supernatural aspect of man intrinsic within all societies of mankind, again supporting the creation narrative and proving their theory of naturalism has no basis in reality.

The Genesis Flood

- Given the phrase in Genesis 7:11, “... the fountains of the great deep burst forth...,” explain what catastrophic events resulted during Noah’s flood. - These include the worldwide distribution of fossils, fossil evidence on mountain tops, the absence of undisputed transitional fossils, massive deposits of oil and coal, expansive megasequences of sedimentary rock across and traversing continents and up to twenty-four animal phyla in the Earth’s Cambrian layers having no ancestral forms found in lower rock layers.
- Considering Genesis 8:22, “while the earth remains, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night, shall not cease,” what was the implication of these words?” - God promised to never send another global flood as had previously occurred at the time of Noah.
- What suggests that the Genesis flood was not a number of local floods, but actually global in nature? - The worldwide fossil beds could only have occurred by a global event; furthermore, the megasequences of sedimentary rock are distributed across continents and traversing continents.
- Explain why Noah has been described as a second Adam as signified with the term, “one blood.” - This is because the genetic material within his three sons, Ham, Shem and Japheth are foundational to the tribal groups that migrated across the face of the Earth following the Genesis flood.
- What is uniformitarianism? - This theory states that changes in the Earth’s crust during the past geological history are representative of those currently occurring today.

- What was Charles Lyell’s motive in popularizing uniformitarianism? - He wanted to free people “from Moses,” essentially from a belief in the Scriptural narrative regarding origins and the global Genesis flood.

Science

- What is the difference between operational and historic science? – Operational science uses the scientific method in conducting experiments to test hypotheses whereas historic science is a study of past events for which there is no direct experimental data, as evidence in archaeology, cosmology, geology, etc. Of course, proponents of evolution use only historic science to support their false philosophy.
- Why does operational science have no explanation for the existence of matter? - Operational science is based on the scientific method which invokes reason and naturalism, leaving no room for the supernatural. By embracing this falsehood, evolutionary theories typically either support an eternal universe or with the case of the Big Bang, just assume the pre-existence of matter. Operational science has no explanation for the existence of matter because matter is of a supernatural origin.
- What three scientific laws depose the proposed theory of evolution as being a false theory and why is this true? 1) First Law of Thermodynamic [Law of Conservation of Matter] – Natural laws have no answer for the existence of matter since it is of a supernatural origin. 2) Entropy – Matter transition from the order to disorder, therefore mutations consistently result in the loss and degeneration of genetic material and cannot be rationally invoked to support the evolution scheme of molecules-to-man. 3) Biogenesis – Non-life cannot create life violating a primary premise used in support of evolutionary development within the animal kingdom.
- Why is the Big Bang an incoherent theory? – The Big Bang claims that a super small and extremely dense dot of matter exploded resulting in the formation of the universe. Steven Hawking gave the dot the label of the “singularity.” But no explanation has been given for the origin of the singularity or a reason for the explosion. One should be highly skeptical of an explosion that results in order or design.
- What is the anthropic principle? - This philosophical consideration states that the universe has all of the fundamental physical constants necessary to accommodate life.
- Why aren’t mutations the answer to the path of evolutionary development demanded by Neo-Darwinists? - Mutations are alterations to the DNA of the cell and consistently result in the loss or destruction of genetic material. Therefore, mutations actually result in devolution, not evolution.

- Explain the massive gap between the great apes and mankind. - Unlike the great apes, man possesses consciousness, feelings, language, logic, literature, music, and creativity. On a physical dimension, in addition to God's only creature that walks upright, there are numerous additional design features which separate him from the great apes. Additionally, on a spiritual basis, man has an immortal soul.
- Explain the concept of the "fruit of the poisonous tree" as it relates to evolution. - Given evolution has no foundation in science, the proofs offered for it will be unreliable, contradictory and incoherent.
- What questions would you ask skeptics to help them think through their secular worldview perspective?
 - What is the origin of the matter in the universe?
 - How did time and space come into existence?
 - How was non-living matter transformed into life forms?
 - How does chance produce the incredible design found in the universe?
 - If animals evolved over "millions of years," why do we not find thousands of the intermediates or transitional forms between species within the fossils record?
 - Evolution's theory claims dinosaurs lived from 65 to 230 million years ago. If that is true, why are we finding soft tissue in dinosaur bones since there is no reason to believe that soft tissue can last for those incredible long periods of time?
 - If evolution is a fact, why do we not see examples of evolution among us now in terms of turtles, eagles and man etc., at intermediate states of development?
 - If man is a chemical accident as evolution claims, how can he think logically since his brain supposedly developed on the basis of random events?
 - While all civil human societies act in moral ways toward others, why do skeptics reject this reality by embracing the contradictory idea of the "survival of the fittest" which in their "dog eat dog" world pridefully rejects morality?

Evolutionary Theory

- What was the importance of the "Enlightenment," [Age of Reason] in the evolution-creation conflict? - This 18th century movement rejected previous traditions including the monarchy, the Catholic Church and Scripture. In so doing this movement replaced the supernatural God with the reasoning of man by adopting the scientific method. This construct has characterized natural science since the "Enlightenment" and is based on the systematic observation, measurement and experiment in the development of a hypothesis.
- What was Charles Darwin's theory of evolution? - Darwinian Theory is summed up in the phrase, the "survival of the fittest" by means of natural selection. It stated that an organism

having the most favorable characteristics for survival has the greatest potential of passing those inborn traits on to their offspring; hence, natural event alone were deemed responsible for the process of evolution.

- How did Charles Lyell offer feasibility to Darwin's theory of evolution? - As an amateur geologist, Lyell proposed that past changes in the Earth's crust occurred at the same rate as those currently occurring, this being referred to as uniformitarianism. The purpose of his proposal was to support Darwinian evolution and reject the catastrophic nature of global Genesis flood.
- What are the four most basic components of the theory of evolution? - The pre-existence of matter, the sole operation of chance events, the driving dynamic of nature and vast periods of time to make the evolutionary process appear feasible.
- How does the term, materialistic naturalism, represent the essence of the evolutionary perspective? - Evolution, in denying the existence of the supernatural, requires that natural processes were necessary to imitate and propel the process of evolution. Additionally, "Mother Nature" rather than God is deemed to be the active agent in the evolutionary process via chance events over "millions of years."
- Evolutionary theory contains two contradictory concepts, namely that the feasibility of the process of molecules to man evolution required "millions of years" to occur and secondly, since fossils within the geological record are nearly identical to creatures living today [stasis] no evolution took place. What would be your conclusion on the basis of this data? Since the theory of evolution provides contradictory evidence to support its efficacy, it is a false and incoherent theory.
- How are humanism and evolution related? - Humanism is a philosophy that embraces atheism, evolution, immorality, human autonomy and ultimately globalism; hence, evolution is an outgrowth of humanism.
- What is theistic evolution or evolutionary creationism? - Both of these terms represent an attempt to harmonize evolution's "millions of years" with Scripture, typically by placing vast periods of time within the creation narrative of Genesis.
- Why is the existence of morality endemic to all societies contradictory to the theory of evolution? - Being a non-material construct, morality cannot be the result of matter as would be required by the theory of evolution.

- Why do skeptics demand that evolution is a fact? - By offering this defense, they attempt to shut down discussion and demand that other viewpoints are irrelevant.
- Why is the Cambrian explosion strong evidence against the theory of evolution? This construct gives valid evidence for numerous phyla of complex organisms proliferating on the bedrock of our planet; in opposition to this documented event, evolutionists claim that the expansion of life was a very gradual process.
- Why can Darwinian evolution be blamed for the horrendous events of the holocaust? - This is because Hitler used Darwin's concept of the "survival of the fittest" in his extermination of eleven million people including Jews and the Slavic peoples in his attempt to create a "master race."
- Explain why man typically denies God in favor of evolution? – Due to man's prideful nature and his desire to live his life as he chooses in not being accountable to his Creator, man will naturally reject the God of Scripture.
- Respond to this statement, Darwinism leads to tyranny. - Similar to Adolf Hitler or for that matter Stalin, Lenin, Marx and Engels, etc., Darwin's theory was critically important in their developing a worldview which involved the strong dominating the weak, and the elite leadership dominating the masses.

The Authenticity of the Supernatural Apart from Scripture

- What are examples of the supernatural found apart from Scripture within the universe, nature and man? - The existence of matter, fine tuning and design of the universe, the design and beauty of nature. Additionally, man's consciousness, reasoning and morality are also examples of non-material features found within all mankind.
- Since natural processes are fundamental to evolution do not produce life from non-life, what is the only default position for the existence of life? - Given this fact, the only rationale is that life represents the signature of God and is of a supernatural origin.
- DNA is an example of language or information within a cell. - How does this finding contradict the foundation on which evolution is based? The theory of evolution demands that chance events of nature are the sole force responsible from the emergence of life; however, the fact that DNA has its basis in language demands that it is the result of intelligence and therefore evolution cannot be considered as a chance event, leaving the only alternative that it is the action of a supernatural God.

- Why do proponents of evolution invoke chance events to support their narrative of origins?
- Chance is the only alternative to design. If they would accept design as a paradigm, they would also logically be forced to accept God as their Creator.
- When evolutionary scientists use logic in pursuing their scientific pursuits, why does this show their blatant dishonesty? - Since evolution is based solely on chance events, these proponents of evolution have no rational basis to claim that logic exists.
- Why can the mind of man not be the result of an evolutionary process? - Chance events cannot possibly produce the incredible ordered human mind. If the mind were the result of chance, thought processes would be random and illogical.
- During the 1800's William Paley offered the teleological argument for the existence of God using the example of finding a watch while walking on the heath; given this example, what was Paley implying? - He was referring to the matter of design within universe, nature and mankind being evidence of a Designer-God.
- Briefly state the cosmological argument for God. - This argument states that since the universe exists, it is only logical to assume that it has a source/cause and a Creator.
- Since the Indigo Bunting migrates at night using the stars for navigation, what does this fact suggest about the origin of this species' instinct? This inborn instinct cannot be attributed to originating from matter, chance or natural processes which have no innate powers of their own. Therefore, the origin of this level of complexity cannot be attributed to chance events as claimed by proponents of evolution. Hence, the only reasonable explanation is that such instincts are of supernatural origin. Of course, additional examples of this type of phenomena are voluminous.
- Why can non-Scripturally based examples of the supernatural be helpful in engaging seekers? - Evolution is a dominant force and a godless philosophy infecting our society opposing Christianity. This force, if unopposed, has the potential of eroding or obstructing faith in Jesus Christ. Opposing this false philosophy can support the faith of Christians and open the hearts of the lost to the true message of God's love for man as found in Scripture.

Appendix B

Additional Apologetic Resources

With escalating attacks on Christianity within our culture, based upon the philosophies of secular humanism, modernism and postmodernism, it is vital to have a basic background and practical materials in young Earth creationism to enrich the theological and science experiences of those served in ministry. To that end, a number of resources are cited along with their selected supplementary materials within appendices. These books are offered as downloads at the LCMS Michigan District website as noted along with this current resource -

(<http://michigandistrict.org/schools/education/curriculum>):

1) *Resources in Apologetics* – (140 pages) Topics covered by books 1 & 2

- | | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Secularism vs. the LCMS | 6. The Young Earth | 11. The Geologic column |
| 2. Evangelism–Apologetics | 7. Mt. St. Helens | 12. The Grand Canyon |
| 3. Creation vs. Evolution | 8. Plate Tectonics | 13. Darwin in Perspective |
| 4. Dinosaurs | 9. The Ice Age | 14. Monkey-Man Evolution |
| 5. The Genesis Flood | 10. Dating Technology | (Counseling Perspective) |

2) *Lesson Plans for Biblical Apologetics* – (124 pages) This work includes a quiz on creation apologetics on pages 121-124.

3) *Touching Lives through Apologetics, a Counseling Perspective*. (128)

Appendix D - Cliff Notes on Apologetic Topics, pp.101-112.

Appendix F - Resource Materials (including DVDs and internet sites for elementary children on young Earth creationist related topics, pp. 115- 122.

4) Copies of this book, *Science Destroys the Evolutionary Paradigm*, are also available as a download on the Michigan District website.

Additional Written Resources

Guide to Creation Basics – This excellent basic resource by the Institute for Creation Research (ICR) covers many evidential topics such as the 14 topics listed on the previous page.

10 Basics Every Creationist Must Know – This is a three page summarization of key apologetic concepts available through Answers in Genesis (AiG).

Acts and Facts – This free monthly magazine from ICR deals with young Earth creationist topics.

Useful YouTubes (attached numbers designate length in minutes)

Evolution vs. God (38); Genesis and the Culture War (41), Science Confirms the Bible (37); Six Days of Creation (47); The Age of the Earth (1:26), The Great Delusion (57); The Incoherence of Atheism Ravi Zacharias (52), Answers to Skeptical Questions of the Age (1:40), The Ultimate Proof of Creation (49), Panel Discussion 2017 – All pastors conference Michigan District (1:07) Questions and Answers with Ken Ham (43), & The Incoherence of Atheism Ravi Zacharias (52)

Movie Resources

An Act of Faith, Evolution’s Achilles’ Heels, God is Alive

Sources of Apologetic Materials Related Magazine

Answers in Genesis

Answers – High school to adult

Creation Ministries International

Creation Magazine – Upper Elementary

Institute for Creation Research

Acts and Facts – Free upon request

LC-MS Concordia University (CUS) Study Group

Creation Research Society

Link to Young Earth Creation Websites

<http://www.creationism.org/topbar/linksWeb.htm>

Appendix C

Apologetic Sources to Augment a Religion/Science Curriculum

There are numerous sources available to enhance your curriculum with regard to both theology/science. Begin by determining at what points in your curriculum(s) it would be helpful to include apologetic materials which further establishes the Scriptural narrative/clarifies the incoherent nature of the evolutionary worldview.

General Perspectives for all Ministry Groups

- Review appendix B, Additional Apologetic Resources of this document as prove helpful.
- Review appendix F, Key Aspects of the Creation and Global Genesis Flood Narratives of this document as prove helpful.
- Review Cliff Notes on Apologetics – Appendix D*
- Review Suggested Apologetic DVD Library Topics - Appendix G *
- Review DVD'S and Internet YouTubes*

* *Touching Lives through Apologetics, a Counseling Perspective* is available from the MI District under Schools – Curriculum as a download.

Early Elementary

- Secure supplementary written materials for sharing with your class on creation, Noah's flood, dinosaurs, the tower of Babel, the Ice Age, etc., from publishers such as AiG, ICR, Master Books, etc.
- Review Buddy Davis' Amazing Adventure Series and The Wild Brothers DVD series which offer interesting topical materials and are available from AiG.
- Check the AiG website Kids section with downloadable materials including Answers, Videos, Activities (coloring items).
- Review the lesson plans available in the *Lesson Plans for Biblical Apologetics* found on the MI District under Schools – Curriculum as a download.
- Check out the AiG website Kids section with downloadable materials in terms of Answers, Videos, Activities (coloring items).

Middle Elementary

- Review Buddy Davis' Amazing Adventure Series and The Wild Brothers DVD series which offer interesting topical materials and are available from AiG.
- Assess appropriate DVD's from publishers such as AiG, ICR, Master Books, etc.
- Check out lessons plans on specific topics available from the *Lesson Plans for Biblical Apologetics* available from the MI District under Schools – Curriculum as a download.
- Review the AiG website there is a Kids section with downloadable materials in terms of Answers, Videos, Activities (coloring items).

Upper Elementary

- Check out the multiple DVD sources available from AiG, ICR and Master Books for purchase and also YouTubes available on the internet. Also regarding this latter matter, review Suggested Apologetic DVD Library Topics on pages 123 of *Touching Lives through Apologetics, a Counseling Perspective* available from the MI District under Schools – Curriculum as a download.
- Review lessons plans on specific topics available from the *Lesson Plans for Biblical Apologetics* resource available from the MI District under Schools – Curriculum as a download.

High School and Adult

- Assess the wide variety of DVD's and You Tubes that fit specific needs. Unless one is dealing with a science class, using materials which provide a general outlook rather than a specific topic may be most meaningful.
- Check out the lessons plans on specific topics available from the *Lesson Plans for Biblical Apologetics* available from the MI District under Schools – Curriculum.

Appendix D

(Similar lesson plans are offered as a download in *Lesson Plans for Biblical Apologetics* found at the LCMS Michigan District website under School-Curriculum)

DINOSAURS LIVED WITH MAN

INSTRUCTIONAL PERSPECTIVES (ME)

- To develop the perspective of the importance of dinosaurs in the story of evolution.
- To illustrate that dinosaurs are part of both the record of Scripture and secular history.
- To clarify dinosaurs could not have lived “millions of years” ago as claimed by evolutionists.

A number of the greatest scientists of all time believed the creation story of Genesis was a real event that occurred in six 24-hour days. These scientists include Copernicus, Galileo, Kepler and Newton to name a few. The 17th century Enlightenment had the purpose of discrediting the Catholic Church and Scripture. Its purpose was to replace the almighty God of Scripture with nature as the driving force in the universe and the source of life on Earth through the process of molecules-to-man evolution.

Proponents of this philosophy claimed that their belief in evolution was scientifically based. During the 19th century Hutton and Lyell developed a theory that the Earth was “millions of years” old. This along with Darwin’s theory of natural selection did much to add substance to the idea of evolution. During this period of time the science of geology was emerging. In 1841 the first dinosaur bones were recognized and the name, dinosaur or “terrible lizard” came into existence. Before this time dinosaurs were commonly called dragons. Proponents of evolution placed dinosaurs into their theory as they typically interpret everything from a “mother Earth” perspective. Given that fact, they claim that dinosaurs lived from 65 to 230 million years ago before becoming extinct.

The truth is that dinosaurs have been around since the sixth day of creation when God created land animals. Along with the other species of animals, dinosaurs were on Noah’s Ark during the global Genesis Flood. The term “dragon” is used 28 times in the Old Testament and had the meaning of a mysterious creature resembling a giant reptile. The book of Job talks about the behemoth, a massive land creature that he witnessed during his life.

Ancient historical records document the existence of dinosaurs/dragons in ancient cultures in terms of numerous reports including graphics and legends. For example, in the 4th century Alexander the Great reported seeing a great hissing dragon living in a cave in India. Another example is that of Marco Polo, who on his trip to China during the 1200's chronicled vivid descriptions of dinosaurs. Even today, we continue to find depictions of dragons as found on the flag of Wales and the Chinese calendar.

If dinosaurs lived 65 to 230 million and not within Bible times as advocates of evolution claim, then recent scientific discoveries make no sense. In 2007 Dr. Mary Schweitzer, a paleontologist, was studying bone slices from a Tyrannosaurus Rex and found flexible tissue within the bones. There is no scientific way of explaining how soft tissue can last 65 million years. Another example supporting the recent origin was the fresh dinosaur bones found in Alaska in 1961. Again, bones that are 65 million years old would either be fossilized or would have deteriorated within a short period of time. The Carbon-14 dating method used in dating organic materials dates dinosaur bones to be less than 6,000 years old and within the biblical time frame. These examples demonstrate that dinosaur bones are quite young and not "millions of years" old.

There are those who oppose Scripture and either reject/diminish our holy and almighty God. They rely primarily on the work of Charles Darwin regarding evolution and that of Charles Lyell expanding the secular timeline to "millions of years." Some say all of Scripture is a myth and others say selected parts such as the creation story, the global Genesis Flood and Jonah are symbolic and not real events. Their story is that nature and not God was the driving force behind the universe and life on the Earth. The truth is that dinosaurs were made by God on the sixth day of creation along with the other land animals and man and were on Noah's ark during the global Genesis Flood. The behemoth was a dinosaur described in detail in the 40th chapter of Job which the Bible describes as a very cold time in Palestine consistent with a single Ice Age on the Earth.

DINOSAURS LIVED WITH MAN



Permission from Answers in Genesis (answersingenesis.com)

Genesis 1 – God created dinosaurs sixth day of creation
along with the other land animals and man.

Genesis 7 – Two of every animal “kind” were on Noah’s ark.

Job 40 & 41 - The description of the behemoth in Job
is consistent with dinosaurs found on God’s Earth.

POINTS TO PONDER

- Name one great scientist who believed in the story of God creating the Earth out of nothing as offered in Genesis 1-2.
- Finish this phrase: molecules-to-man _____.
- On what day of creation did God create land animals including dinosaurs?
- What evidence from Scripture and also from the history of man tells us that there were dinosaurs on Noah’s ark?
- What belief or philosophy about nature did man use to reject the almighty God of the Bible as the Creator of all things?
- What was the name used in Scripture for the dinosaurs?
- During what timeframe do followers of evolution claim that dinosaurs lived?
- What book in Scripture tells us about a dinosaur, the behemoth, that lived only thousands of years ago?
- What proofs do we have that dinosaurs did live with man?
- Why do advocates of evolution claim that dinosaurs did not live with man?
- What does finding soft tissue in dinosaur bones tell us?
- How does finding a dinosaur in the Bible support God’s story in Scripture?

Appendix E

Instructor Version - Selected Genesis 1-11 Thoughts along with Salient Excerpts from *Science Destroys the Evolutionary Paradigm*

The student version of this document has been written specifically for use with adolescents such as a confirmation class, but of course, has many additional applications. This instructional version offers additional reference material for a leader and an asterisk (*) within the student version denotes this fact. This product can be extracted from this book and student version can be repaginated to facilitate use within a group setting. Additionally, it may be helpful to only extract specific sections of the student version as the entire document may not be cumbersome to implant given one's current curriculum.

The following two passages headline the student version. It would be helpful to use them as a foretaste of upcoming materials by emphasizing that the reasoning of man is inadequate in comprehending the all-powerful [supernatural] nature of God as evidence in his creation of the universe and the crown of his creation, man. Additionally, it is vital that students understand that it is the objective of sinful man to denigrate God's creation leading to the hopeless condition of rejecting God as the Creator, Designer and Law Giver as offered in the narrative of Scripture:

- Isaiah 55:9 - Just as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.
- Colossians 2:8 - See to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy, which depends on human tradition and the basic principles of this world rather than on Christ.

The Creation Narrative of Genesis 1-3 – Additional information is found on pages 103-107 of *Science Destroys the Evolutionary Paradigm* (Appendix G – Key Aspects of the Creation and Global Flood Narratives).

The Genesis Flood (Genesis 6:11-9:28) - Additional information is found on pages 107-109 of *Science Destroys the Evolutionary Paradigm* (Appendix G – Key Aspects of the Creation and Global Flood Narratives).

- Water inundated the Earth from above and below and its tectonic plates moved rapidly “as all of the fountains of the great deep broke” separating its initial single land mass and rapidly moving its parts to ultimately transform the Earth into its present seven continents. Volcanism, tsunamis and mountain building characterized this chaotic event. Evidence of this global flood event is clearly seen in the megasequences of sedimentary rock on and traversing continents and the global fossil record, remnants of which are found on the tops of mountains. The secular approach to the chronical of Noah’s flood suggests that there were multiple floods occurring on the Earth, not a singular global event referenced in Scripture.

The Tower of Babel Genesis 11

- Man’s Migration Following Babel – Anthropology, along with migrations throughout the Earth, document the lineage of the sons of Noah with Ham as the father of the African nations including Egyptians and Ethiopians and the Canaanite peoples; Shem, the father of Semitic and Arabian peoples; and Japheth, meaning “fair,” being the father of the Europeans and selected Asian peoples. This is in stark contrast to the secular “out of Africa” proposal regarding the origin of people groups. The tribal peoples of world, being of one race and living in remote locations across the Earth, represent bottleneck populations and share subtle mutations and unique genetic information replicated within that people group and recorded in Scripture as “one blood” by Luke in Acts 17:26. This global migration, likely in Job’s lifetime, occurred during the Ice Age, and included the eight generations from Noah to Abraham.

Western Civilization’s Attempts in Interpreting Origins

- Augustine (354-430 AD) believed Scripture’s creation account was not historical narrative although he supported the existence of a literal Adam and the theology of original sin. He taught that God developed his creation of life forms throughout the ages and according to his providence, ignoring the six day literal 24 hour narrative of Genesis.
- Thomas Aquinas (1225-1274), offered the first cause [cosmological argument] for God, stating that since the universe exists it had a beginning and therefore an original cause.
- Johannes Kepler (1571-1630), discovered the laws of planetary motion. His creationist ties are exemplified by his comment regarding “thinking God’s thoughts after him.”
- Isaac Newton (1642-1727), the most influential scientists of all time, gave man the three laws of motion and his universal theory of gravity. He offered this reflection regarding the false science of evolution, “Atheism is so senseless. When I look at the solar system, I see the earth at the right distance from the sun to receive the proper amounts of heat and light. This did not happen by chance;”
- Galileo (1564-1642) defended the heliocentric theory, namely the sun was the center of our solar system, in opposition to the Catholic Churches’ dogma that the Earth held that

position. In this regard, Galileo was declared a heretic, a status which was eventually lifted by Pope John Paul 1996, nearly 300 years later.

- America's founding fathers including Washington, Franklin and Jefferson were students of the Enlightenment. These statesmen embraced deism, a mid-way philosophy between creation and evolution, espousing that God created the universe and essentially "went on vacation" as life emerged solely via the action of nature. During this period Scripture was relegated to simply a book containing important moral standards, i.e., Thomas Jefferson edited the Gospels of the New Testament by removing any reference to miracles/the supernatural.
- In the pivotal case of *Engel vs. Vitale*, the liberal Warren Supreme Court of 1962 dealt with the matter of separation of church and state. Central to this case was the Establishment Clause of the First Amendment of the United States Constitution. This clause was originally intended to protect churches from the federal government by not allowing a national church to be established in America as had occurred with the Anglican Church of England. Extracting the phrase, "a wall of separation between church and state" from Thomas Jefferson's letter to the Danbury Baptist Association of Connecticut, this phrase was used to eliminate the Christian concept of God from areas within the public domain. The result of this court's ruling was ultimately to substitute humanism for Christianity as America's official religion and implant this secular philosophy into the public schools.
- Our Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod was also confronted with issues related to humanism during the 20th century. The Brief Statement of 1932 upheld the Genesis narrative of the six day literal 24 hour creation narrative and rejected the evolutionary storyline. The Statement of Scriptural and Confession Principles of 1972, among other issues, prohibited the use of naturalistic explanations for the miraculous events found in Scripture. In contrast, many Christian churches in America accept the concept of the God-driven evolution of man following the creation of the universe. One example is the dogma of the Catholic Church which has historically held that the body of man evolved from a non-human source and the soul of man was supernaturally added at some point in time later by God. This merging of conjecture with the biblical narrative denies the authority of Scripture.

Evolution has no Basis in Valid Science

- Matter cannot come into existence of its own accord as required by the theory of evolution; the existence of matter is a God thing. The word "create" in Genesis 1:1 taken from the Hebrew "bara," means to "make out of nothing." In explaining the existence of matter, the ancient Greeks claimed the universe was eternal, thus avoiding the problem of documenting the origin of matter. The more recent Big Bang theory proposed that a tightly compacted bit of matter [the singularity] reportedly exploded initiating the evolutionary process. However, there is no naturalistic explanation for the singularity. The process of evolution requires its proponents to start in "mid-stream, thus ignoring the supernatural

origin of matter. In contrast, the cosmological argument for God proposed by Thomas Aquinas states that the mere existence of the universe proves that it has a source/cause and therefore a creator, in support the Scriptural narrative.

- Nature has no innate power of its own to create life from non-life. Life is required to create life. Pasteur's law of biogenesis states that non-life cannot create life. Since the creation of life is not the result of natural processes, the only alternative is that it is a supernatural event. In claiming nature's inherent creative powers as a fact, proponents of evolution are appealing to a "child-like intellect" in proposing that the issue of origins should not be critically examined. An additional problem is that due man's sin, nature has been subjected to progressive decline/disorder [entropy] as stated in Genesis 3:19 in the words "thou are dust and unto dust thou shalt return." This contradicts the possibility of evolutionary development from molecules to man since proponents claim that the primary factor in the process is mutations; these destructive occurrences with genes result in the loss of genetic materials and the progressive degeneration of a species.
- Chance does not create design as evolution's theory requires. God's creative acts produced order and design as evidenced within the sciences of astronomy, biology, chemistry, mathematics, physics, etc. Design is not and cannot be the result from chance events; therefore, design can only be attributed to a supernatural God. In this regard, Socrates formulated the teleological argument for God based on design which is supported by overwhelming evidence demonstrating that the universe was fined-tuned and the Earth was meticulously designed to support life, 122 factors rest on an apparent "razor's edge" so to say. The "Goldilocks principle" is frequently used to describe the many physical factors which converge to make the Earth hospitable as contrasted to the barren planets in our solar system. Examples of this anthropic principle that universe was fine-tuned for life are offered here:
 - The sun is just the right mass. If it was larger, it would offer too much radiation and if smaller, too little. If the process of photosynthesis is disrupted, the Earth would no longer support life.
 - The Earth's distance from the sun is crucial for maintaining a stable water cycle. If too far away, most water on the Earth would freeze and if too close, most water would boil, thus in both cases life on Earth would be decimated.
 - The Earth's solid inner core and liquid outer core produce a protective electromagnetic field which is just the right strength to protect life from deadly solar radiation.
 - The Earth's moon ensures the stability of our climate by minimizing changes in planetary tilt stabilizing the seasons.
 - Jupiter's orbit is in concert with that of the Earth, thus shielding our planet from collisions with asteroids.
 - Additional factors which maintain the constancy of life on the Earth include the Earth's rotation, gravity, axial tilt, crust thickness, oxygen/nitrogen ratio, water vapor, carbon dioxide and ozone levels.

Fruit of the Poisonous Tree – Additional information is found on pages 51-57 of *Science Destroys the Evolutionary Paradigm* (Fruit of the Poisonous Tree).

Problems Associated with Theistic Evolution – No additional reference materials.

The Reality of the Supernatural Devastates the Evolutionary Paradigm – No additional reference materials.

Questions Useful in Determining a Valid Philosophy of Life – Additional information is found on pages 60-64 of *Science Destroys the Evolutionary Paradigm* (The Powers of the Supernatural in Refuting Evolution).

**The foregoing materials represent an extraction from
*Science Destroys the Evolutionary Paradigm***

Edited by John Fricke, former science professor
at Concordia University, Ann Arbor, MI

Written by Dr. Jim Pagels – 7/20/2018
Clinical Psychologist

As is the case with *Science Destroys the Evolutionary Paradigm*, additional apologetic resources by this author are available as downloads on the Michigan District of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod website under Schools – Curriculum including the following:

- 1) *Resources in Apologetics* – Basic topic content offered below
- 2) *Lesson Plans (in Apologetics)* – These are intended for classroom usage. See Appendix D of *Science Destroys the Evolutionary Paradigm* for a sample lesson plan.
- 3) *Touching Lives through Apologetics ** - A counseling perspective with cliff notes on apologetics and resource offerings directed at elementary students.

Topics covered by books 1 & 2:

- | | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|---|
| 1. Secularism vs. the LCMS | 6. The Young Earth | 11. The Geologic column |
| 2. Evangelism–Apologetics | 7. Mt. St. Helens | 12. The Grand Canyon |
| 3. Creation vs. Evolution | 8. Plate Tectonics | 13. Darwin in Perspective |
| 4. Dinosaurs | 9. The Ice Age | 14. Myth Monkey-Man Evolution
(Counseling Perspective) |
| 5. The Genesis Flood | 10. Dating Technology | |

Appendix F

Student Version - Selected Genesis 1-11 Thoughts along with Salient Excerpts from *Science Destroys the Evolutionary Paradigm*

Isaiah 55:9

Just as the heavens are higher than the earth,
so are my ways higher than your ways
and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Colossians 2:8

See to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and
deceptive philosophy, which depends on human tradition
and the basic principles of this world rather than on Christ.

The Creation Narrative of Genesis 1-3*

- The Scriptural creation narrative is foundational in explaining the origin of the universe, the institution of marriage, man's fall into sin and God's enduring love for man in the promising of a Savior from his lost condition.
- God created a perfect universe and life forms on Earth "out of absolutely nothing."
- On day one God created matter, energy, space, light and time.
- Creation was a Trinitarian act. The Hebrew term "Elohim" used for God is grammatically a plural. In addition to God the Father, the Spirit of God is referenced in the beginning verses of Genesis as "hovering over the waters." The Gospel of John begins by explaining the role of God's Son, Jesus Christ, within the creative act with these words, "In the beginning was the Word...all things were made by him; and without him was nothing made that was made."
- The entire creation of the universe occurred in six literal 24-hour days.
- The term, "after their kind" repeated throughout the creation narrative explains that all of God's creatures bore offspring of the same "kind" or genetic grouping as their parents.

- Man was created from the dust of the ground and in the “image of God,” having a free will like his Creator and dominion over all of God’s creatures.
- Man did not follow God’s command to not eat from the “tree of good and evil” bringing sin into the world. This act of defiance caused disorder for the universe, nature and with man, disease, death and pain in childbirth for the woman.
- In God’s continuing love for man, God made a covenant to redeem man from his sinful condition and offered the promise of eternal life in heaven throughout all eternity to all who accepted Jesus as their Savior from sin.

The Genesis Flood (Genesis 6:11-9:28)*

- During the next 1600 years God witnessed the great wickedness of man multiply on Earth and being deeply troubled, chose to destroy life on the Earth via a global flood.
- God saw that Noah, his three sons and their wives were righteous in his sight and determined to save them from the approaching deluge.
- God instructed Noah to build an ark and gather representative animals from the Earth into the ark to repopulate Earth once the flood waters subsided.
- During this global flood event all life on the land was destroyed with the exclusion of lifeforms on the ark and in the waters of the Earth.
- This global flood lasted approximately one year. It was catastrophic, destroying all life on the land and modifying the Earth from its single mega-landmass to our current seven continents. This chaotic event was characterized by water coming from above and below the Earth, rapidly moving tectonic plates, tsunamis, volcanic activity and the reforming of the Earth’s crust. Evidence of this global event is clearly seen in the megasequences of sedimentary rock on and traversing continents and the global fossil record.*

The Tower of Babel Genesis 11

- This event was a prideful effort of man attempting to demonstrate his self-importance and reject God’s command to not only be fruitful and multiply, but also to subdue the Earth.
- God confused the language of the people and the tribal groups which ultimately fulfilled God’s command by dispersing across the face of the Earth. Ham was the father of the African, Egyptians, Ethiopians and the Canaanite peoples; Shem, the father of Semitic and Arabian peoples; and Japheth, the father of the Europeans and selected Asian peoples. This global migration, likely in Job’s lifetime, happened during the Ice Age and within the eight generations occurring from Noah to Abraham.

Western Civilization’s Attempts in Interpreting Origins

- Prideful man uses his human reason to interpret the matter of origins.

- The ancient Greeks believed in an eternal universe and created mythical stories, some dealing with the matter of origins, based on the constellations of the heavens.
- Augustine, an early theologian of the Catholic Church, did not view the Scripture's creation account as historical although he did embrace a literal Adam and the theology of original sin.* He, along with Aquinas, combined Scripture with the scientific beliefs of their time which led to the current dogma of the Catholic Church.*
- Martin Luther (1482-1546), the father of the Protestant Reformation, in contrast to the Catholic Church, demanded that Scripture was the only source of the churches' doctrine. Luther offered his summary of theology in that man is saved solely by faith, Scripture and the grace of God.
- The world's greatest scientists such as Kepler*, Newton* and Galileo* were all creationists and embraced the Scriptural narrative of God's creation and the Genesis flood. These discoveries dealt with understanding the majesty of the universe relative to the heavenly bodies, i.e., the sun, moon, stars and planets.
- The 18th century "Enlightenment" [Age of Reason] had the specific purpose of rejecting the monarch, the Catholic Church and Scripture. The scientific method was an outcome of this movement and substituted the reasoning of man and the processes of nature for the action of the supernatural God of Scripture.
- In America, the founding fathers, i.e., Washington, Franklin and Jefferson embraced deism which considered the Bible's only value that of endorsing morality.*
- In rejecting to Holy Scripture, Charles Darwin offered his theory of evolution in his 1859 book, *The Origin of Species by means of natural selection*. There he endorsed the theory of molecules-to-man evolution which rejected the Scriptural narrative of fixed "kinds."
- Charles Lyell, a contemporary of Darwin, popularized the theory of gradualism which proposed that past geological processes in the Earth's crust were equivalent to those currently operating. This rejected the young Earth narrative of the Bible and added "millions of years" to the history of the universe.
- During the 19th century the Scottish theologian Thomas Chalmers popularized the "gap theory" which placed expansive periods of time into the creation narrative to accommodate the "millions of years" of the theory of evolution. In the 20th century, Cyrus Scofield also embraced the secular concept of "deep time" and implanted massive expanses into the creation narrative in his 1917 edition of the Bible. In order to harmonize the creation narrative with evolution, the creation narrative of Genesis was ultimately deemed either to be allegory or poetry. Many theological problems arise from this old Earth theme required by proponents of evolution. By placing "millions of years" of death and disease before the dawn of man, God is described as using the results of sin within his creative act. This rejects the theology of the holiness of God and undercuts the rest of Scriptures as being incoherent, untrue and meaningless.
- The Humanist Manifesto of 1933 proposed that the universe is self-existent, not created and that man emerged as the result of a continuous evolutionary process.

- The liberal Warren Supreme Court of 1962 upheld the edict of “separation of church and state.” This removed Christianity from the public domain in spite of the founding fathers wish only wanting to only insure that America would not adopt a state religion.*
- A majority of the Christian churches in America currently harmonize Scripture with evolution [theistic evolution] which causes a considerable source of confusion. In contrast, our Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod has maintained the Scripture narrative regarding God’s six literal 24- hour day of creation of the universe and the global Genesis flood.*
- Late in the 20th century, groups focusing on young Earth creationism surfaced in American. Prominent among these groups was the Institute for Creation Research formed in 1972 and Answers in Genesis of 1980. A ground breaking creationist book was the work of Henry Morris and John Henry Whitcomb, *The Genesis Flood*. In contrast, Biologos and Old Earth Ministries were formed with the objective of harmonizing the historical science of evolution with Scripture.

Evolution has no Basis in Valid Science

Evolution [materialistic naturalism], a secular explanation of the origin of the universe and life on Earth, is a false theory, having no basis in science. It requires 1) the pre-existence of matter, 2) nature being a force in its own right, 3) chance events creating design and 4) “millions of years,” yet not one of these four pillars has any valid basis. The supernatural “hand of God” as documented in Holy Scripture is the sole, viable force responsible for creating and currently upholding the universe. The invalid nature of each of the four pillars of evolution is documented as follows:

- Matter - The theory of evolution has no explanation for the existence of matter via a natural process. Without matter, evolution has no starting point. The only origin for matter is that of it being the result of the logical and ordered processes of a supernatural God.*
- Nature - Pasteur’s law of biogenesis states that non-life cannot create life. Nature has no inborn power of its own to create life from non-life as the theory of evolution requires.*
- Chance - Random events do not create the magnificent design within the universe, nature and man as required by proponents of evolution. Design cannot be the result of chance events; design is the result of an all-power God.*
- “Millions of years” are required for evolution to take place. Atheists say, “Given enough time anything can happen.” Adding massive amounts of time to chance events is simply a distraction and does nothing to explain the creation of design. The mathematical probabilities of the events required for the process of evolution are zero. There are numerous evidences providing contrary evidence for “millions of years” including the following:
 - Finding soft tissue in dinosaur bones claimed to be at least 65 million years old is not scientifically defensible, yet these findings are a common occurrence.

- The large sections of folded sedimentary rock can only be reasonably explained if the rock layers were wet when formed, therefore supporting a young Earth perspective.
- The Earth's present population cannot be understood on the basis of "millions of years," but represents strong evidence for a young Earth.
- Diamonds are extremely resistant to contamination and the radiocarbon within them disperses rapidly. Therefore, the presence of radiocarbon in diamonds rejects this old Earth time parameter."

Fruit of the Poisonous Tree*

This metaphor describes fact that when a percept is false, any resulting product is also similarly contaminated. Considering this premise, since evolution is not based in either reality or science, the evidence offered in its support is also unfounded and false. One example of the manipulation of proclaiming a lie as truth is Germany's Minister of Propaganda, Joseph Goebbels. During World War II he was quoted as saying, "If a lie is repeated often enough, it becomes the truth." Furthermore, it is the skeptics who consistently point to evidences that are rather "high on the evolutionary tree," e.g., dinosaurs, Darwin's finches, ape men, etc., thus attempting to avoid the obvious fore mentioned pitfalls of their theory. In this matter, it is not that proponents of evolution lack intelligence; it is just that they believe so much that is not true. The following are examples of their deceitful efforts in manipulating the truth:

- Falsifying Data – One of the most notorious examples is the Piltdown man which was presented within the British Museum for four decade as an example of a "missing link" between the great apes and modern man. This artifact provided generations with false evidence for evolution, but was little more than a poorly executed combination of recent bones including parts of a human skull and the jaw bone of a chimpanzee. An additional example of falsifying data is that of German anthropologist, Reiner Protsch. In 2004 it was discovered that he had manipulated scientific facts concerning Neanderthals for over 30 years in presenting Neanderthals as a subhuman transition between the great apes and modern man. However, recent research has determined that the Neanderthals were fully human.
- Ignoring Conflicting Results. - The Cambrian explosion has confirmed that layers just above the Earth's bedrock contain 26 phyla of complex plants and animals. These phyla with no transitional ancestors defy evolution's storyline. Additionally, thousands of trees called polystrate fossils have been discovered in an upright position, protruding supposedly through "millions of years" of sedimentary rock. This is an obvious impossibility within the "deep time" scenario of evolution, but an expected finding supporting the global Genesis flood event.
- Evolution is offered as a Fact – Although an unproven theory, the skeptic's classic argument is to state that evolution is a fact. In this tact, they typically use statements such as "the evidence speaks for itself," wishing for others to view the theory uncritically.

- The Use of Circular Reasoning –. The science method uses direct observation to develop hypotheses; however, with evolution the opposite is true. Its proponents short circuit the process by seeking proof to support the accuracy of their theory, this being patently unscientific. One case in point is the search for “missing links” between man and the great apes. Since evolution is deemed to be true, this search for “missing links” has been ongoing for the last century and a half; however, the fact is that not one uncontested example has been discovered.
- Rescue Devices – Given the fact that comets last less than 100,000 years, to support the universe being “millions of years” old, Dr. Oort theorized that new comets are created in a region beyond Neptune. This contrived “Oort cloud” is yet to be discovered.
- Revising History –Dragons [dinosaurs] have been faithfully documented throughout the history of man via artifacts, drawings and ancient literature; however, in support of Darwinian Theory, early in the 20th century dragons received a mythical status, since the ploy of “millions of years” and the geologic column required dinosaurs to live from 65 to 230 million years ago.

Problems Associated with Theistic Evolution

As previously reported, many Christians have accepted the old Earth philosophy of harmonizing Scripture with “millions of years.” This practice of substituting natural processes for the supernatural “hand of God” is referred to as theistic evolution. A ploy used by these individuals is to claim they accept the inerrancy of Scripture and yet to reinterpret the Scriptural narrative in support of their old Earth perspective. Numerous problems emerge from this denegation of the Scriptural narrative include the following:

- The Bible, or at least selected parts are rejected due to their being reinterpreted as allegory, myth or poetry.
- The supernatural nature of God would be either modified or lost completely in an effort to accommodate natural processes fundamental to evolution’s storyline.
- A perfect God could not deny his holy nature by using the degenerative agents of sin, i.e., disease and death in creating man.
- The six literal day 24-hour day of the Genesis creation account could not be taken as true within a scenario involving “millions of years.”
- Original sin cannot be an outgrowth of naturalistic processes as required by the philosophy of theistic evolution since God’s creation of nature was originally perfect in every respect.
- Man cannot receive a soul within a series of events based on natural processes since the soul is the result of a supernatural event of God.
- Mankind would be considered to have evolved via natural processes from the great apes and therefore morality would have no rational basis within the secular scenario of evolution.
- Noah’s flood of Scripture would be felt to be just one of many local events.

- The dispersion of mankind from Babel would not be considered a real event.
- The narrative of Christ's redemptive work for mankind could be lost in the confusion of reinterpreting the narrative of Scripture.

Lastly, let us also remember that faith alone is the sole requirement for salvation as Luther so eloquently declared during the Reformation and was illustrated again and again in the 11th chapter of Hebrews; hence, although old Earth creationism is clearly problematic, it is critical to remember that faith is God's sole requirement for salvation

The Reality of the Supernatural Destroys the Evolutionary Paradigm

The presence of the supernatural outside of Scripture absolutely rejects the primary proposition of evolution which claims nature is the force solely responsible for the development of life on Earth. The presence of the supernatural outside the Scripture destroys the very foundation of evolution and designates it as an incoherent and impotent philosophy. With the believer, it clarifies the Scriptural narrative where confusion may have been present. For the seeker, this realization can result in the rejection of evolution's false scenario and seeking out and accepting the biblical narrative which fully explains the supernatural signatures of God as evidenced in the universe, nature and mankind. These examples confirm the existence of the supernatural outside of Scripture and clearly reject nature as the sole and viable force behind molecule to man evolution:

- The existence of matter – Nature has no explanation for the existence of matter. The law of the conservation supports this premise stating the matter can neither be created nor destroyed. Given this fact, the only explanation for matter occurring is that it was created by a supernatural act of God.
- Fine-tuning – There is an incredible balance in the universe within the galaxy, star and planet movements that cannot be explained by chance events. Additionally, life on Earth is based on the implausible stability of many factors that cannot be explained on the basis of random events, both of these examples pointing to a supernatural Creator, God.
- Design - Chance events claimed foundational to the process of evolution cannot create the incredible design found in life. One example is DNA, the chemical language of life. Language can only result from intelligence; it is not a product of random events as evolution demands. By eliminating the possibility of chance events creating design, the supernatural God is the only realistic alternative for design. Furthermore, DNA is just one example of the many incredible design features intrinsic in nature and the crown of God's creation, man.
- Man's reasoning, consciousness and feelings – Evolution claims matter is the solitary source from which the universe and life emerged. The basic problem for this is that there is no way of explaining how matter creates the non-material qualities found in man such as feeling and intelligence.

- Morality in mankind. Morality is also a non-material quality found in all of mankind; since morality cannot have its origin in matter, the only other option is the Creator God.

Questions Useful in Determining a Valid Philosophy of Life:*

- Does the worldview (philosophy/religion) fit the facts?
- Does the worldview have contradictions? If so, it is false.
- Is the worldview useful in life?

A true philosophy must answer all of life's most basic questions. Evolution does not and cannot answer these questions since it is based on the perspective of eliminating the possibility of God as the Creator, the Designer and the Law-Giver. Scripture contains the only true philosophy that fully answers these questions by providing clear evidence of the supernatural as here illustrated:

- The origin of matter, the universe, nature and man. - God created matter from absolutely nothing as documented by the Hebrew meaning of the word "create."
- The source of logic, order, fine-tuning and design in the universe and within man. - The holy and omnipotent Creator-God accounts all of these conditions by his perfect creation of the universe, nature and man. Evolutionary scientists use logic and order in their scientific pursuits, but demand that only chance events exist. This is nonsense since skeptics are using God's created logic in their day to day scientific efforts while at the same time denying God's existence. Their contradictory behavior proves they are trapped by their pride and unbelief in a false and incoherent theory.
- The origin of life. - God alone is the creator of all things. Using non-living matter plus chance events to produce life and complex organisms violates Louis Pasteur's scientific law of biogenesis which states that only life produces life.
- Man's ability to reason and his consciousness and feelings. - These are non-material phenomena are God-created and cannot be the result of matter as evolution's theory demands.
- How and why do man and animals differ? - Man differs from the animals because man was created "in God's image" and capable of having a relationship with God. He has the ability to reason, to speak and was given dominion over the Earth and its creatures.
- The source disorder in man and nature. - Man, having a free will, disobeyed God's law and brought disorder, disease, pain and death to man and his helpmate, the woman.
- The origin of morality. - Matter does not create a non-material outcome such as morality; this was supernaturally implanted in man in the form of a conscience by God. Atheists, in rejecting God, reject his laws which are the basis of morality.
- If God truly exists, why is there so much evil in the world? - Man has a free will to either follow God's rules in loving God and his fellow man or in his pride to reject God's commands by making his own rules. Therefore, evil is not the result of a perfect God but

rather an outcome of man's fall into sin and its consequences including disease, disorder and death which affect man and also caused disorder in our world.

- Man's relationship with his Creator and his purpose on the planet Earth. - God seeks a relationship with man here in time and also in eternity. God's gift to man is to be shared with others so they may also understand God's truth in Scripture and his love for man and claim heaven as their own.
- Man's ultimate value beyond his earthly existence. - Man's lasting value is to understand God's unfathomable love for man and sharing that precept with others.

Questions to Ask a Skeptic

It is vitally important for a skeptic to rationally think through his system of beliefs. Questions that probe his philosophy and illustrate its incoherent nature are an important strategy in generating conversation and stimulating their self-reflection. Similar to Christ's use of parables in creating a mental image, so also the soul searching for some may ultimately lead them to the truth of God's message in Scripture and faith in Jesus Christ their Savior.

- What is the origin of the matter in the universe?
- How did time and space come into existence?
- How was non-living matter transformed into life forms?
- How does chance produce the incredible design found in the universe?
- If evolution actually took place in contrast to the act of a supernatural creator, why hasn't modern science even come close to producing life in the laboratory?
- In the process of evolution, how can an incompletely developed feature of an organism serve it when this feature is not fully evolved?
- Why doesn't every organism have many leftover over features from organisms from which it evolved?
- If animals evolved over "millions of years," why do we not find thousands of the intermediates or transitional forms between species within the fossils record?
- Evolution's theory claims dinosaurs lived from 65 to 230 million years ago. If that is true, why are we finding soft tissue in dinosaur bones since there is no reason to believe that soft tissue can last for those incredible long periods of time?
- If evolution is a fact, why do we not see examples of evolution among us now in terms of turtles, eagles and man etc., at intermediate states of development?
- Why is the linkage between ape and man so unclear?
- If man is a chemical accident as evolution claims, how can he think logically since his brain supposedly developed on the basis of random events?
- While all civil human societies act in moral ways toward others, why do skeptics reject this reality by embracing the contradictory idea of the "survival of the fittest" which in their "dog eat dog" world pridefully rejects morality?

**The foregoing materials represent an extraction from
*Science Destroys the Evolutionary Paradigm***

Edited by John Fricke, former science professor
at Concordia University, Ann Arbor, MI

Written by Dr. Jim Pagels – 7/20/2018
Clinical Psychologist

As is the case with *Science Destroys the Evolutionary Paradigm*, additional apologetic resources by this author are available as downloads on the Michigan District of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod website under Schools – Curriculum including the following:

- 1) *Resources in Apologetics* – Basic topic content offered below
- 2) *Lesson Plans (in Apologetics)* – These are intended for classroom usage. See Appendix D of *Science Destroys the Evolutionary Paradigm* for a sample lesson plan.
- 3) *Touching Lives through Apologetics ** - A counseling perspective with cliff notes on apologetics and resource offerings directed at elementary students.

Topics covered by books 1 & 2:

- | | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Secularism vs. the LCMS | 6. The Young Earth | 11. The Geologic column |
| 2. Evangelism–Apologetics | 7. Mt. St. Helens | 12. The Grand Canyon |
| 3. Creation vs. Evolution | 8. Plate Tectonics | 13. Darwin in Perspective |
| 4. Dinosaurs | 9. The Ice Age | 14. Myth Monkey-Man Evolution |
| 5. The Genesis Flood | 10. Dating Technology | (Counseling Perspective) |

Appendix G

CLIFF NOTES FOR SCIENCE DESTROYS THE EVOLUTIONARY PARADIGM

The humanist manifesto of 1933 claimed that the universe is self-existing, not created, and that man is a part of nature, having emerged as a result of a continuous process via evolution. Creationist and theologian Tim LaHaye rightly defined secular humanism as embracing atheism, evolution, immorality, human autonomy and ultimately globalism. John Lennon of the Beatles immortalized this philosophy in his lyrics for *Imagine* using these words, “Imagine there is no heaven, it’s easy if you try... And no religion too, Imagine all the people living life in peace.... Humanists have been highly successful within America’s contemporary society at portraying evolution as a fact via media and internet sources. Their greatest success is the mass indoctrination of our youth largely through our public school system.

Given the humanist’s mantra declaring that evolution is a fact, one must ask why this tact is so powerful. In opposing this premise, we need look to Jean Piaget, the Swiss psychologist, who described the assimilation of facts as indicative of a concrete-operational level of cognitive development and an intellectual level of a 7 to 11 year-old child. Proponents of evolution are clearly saying, “Trust us, we are right, do not question our facts.” The churches’ approach to children and adults alike in sharing God’s Holy Word, whether it is via a Bible class format or in a Sunday morning sermon, is to also present God’s Word as fact/truth. A common proof text in this regard is II Peter 1:21, “For no prophet was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.” This approach toward ministry is based on the recognition that the Scriptural narrative is the world’s only coherent and valid philosophy as contrasted with all other man-made religions. However, in refuting Christianity, proponents of evolution claim their philosophy is backed by science in contrast to Scripture which is characterized as myth. Therefore, Christians must move past accepting this apparent stalemate as Paul did in confronting the false philosophies in Colossians 2:8 by stating “See to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy, which depends on human tradition and the basic principles of this world rather than Christ.”

In approaching this problem, creationists must understand that there are actually two meanings of the term science, one being observational science and the other, historical science. With observational science, experiments are performed resulting in clear and observable results. In contrast, historical science deals with events for which there are no direct evidences to support specific conclusions. Therefore, the historical sciences including archaeology, astronomy,

astrophysics, cosmology, geology and paleontology are actually based on unproven assumptions. Considering this fact, it is easy to appreciate the mantra supporting evolution, “the present is the key to the past.” As we begin to understand this worldview involving materialistic naturalism, we realize that evolution is actually a philosophy opposing to all man-made religions. Fundamentally, the theory of evolution is based on the notion that the foundational components of matter, nature, chance events and “millions of years” have the power to produce the universe and all life on planet Earth. The fact is that these foundational components are powerless to generate the universe as the following evidence illustrates:

- Existence of matter – Matter is not self-existent as required by the storyline of evolution; therefore, not being of natural origin, evolution’s only default is that matter is the result of a supernatural event.
- Aristotle (384-322 BC) established a model for a geocentric universe with the Earth at its center surrounded by concentric heavenly bodies, the planets and stars. His was a “static universe” that was unchanged throughout eternity.
- Around 1850 Rudolf Clausius and William Thomson codified the First Law of Thermodynamics (Conservation of Matter). This law stated that matter can be converted into energy and vice versa; however, it also confirmed that there is absolutely no scientific or naturalistic explanation for matter occurring spontaneously which, by default, infers that matter could only be of supernatural origin.
- In 1929 Edward Hubble documented the expanding universe with his new and more powerful telescope via his documenting of the red shift. This event occurs when light waves are stretched resulting in longer wave lengths. As observed from Earth, the light from most objects in the universe are redshifted suggesting that celestial objects are moving away. Some believe that this discovery proved that the universe had a beginning and also confirmed that the universe had a cause, namely a Creator. The Big Bang theory was an outgrowth of Hubble’s discovery and theorized that the original matter that comprised the universe was a compacted bit of material termed the “singularity,” however, this construct has never having been clearly described and the origin of the singularity is unexplained. Therefore, the heart of the Big Bang theory is the pre-existence of matter, a premise for which there is no naturalistic explanation. Of course, the unacceptable alternative for secularists would be that matter is of supernatural origin.
- By the 1920’s astronomers first established that the universe was expanding. Since Einstein believed the universe existed in a “steady state,” expanding but maintaining a constant average amount of matter, he added a cosmological constant a fudge factor to support the construct of an eternal universe. This he later called this the greatest blunder in his career. There is an urban legend that Einstein changed his perspective when he visited Edward Hubble on Mt. Wilson to observe the red shift. However, research suggests that his reevaluation occurred after many encounters with the most influential astrophysicists of his generation.

- Nature – Nature is a term which evolutionary scientists attribute to being an active force in the development of life forms and observable physical processes on Earth.
 - In 1850 Louis Pasteur’s ingenious experiment using a nutrient broth rejected the ancient world’s adherence to the spontaneous generation of life forms. His law of biogenesis stated that only life produces life, therefore offering nature no starting point for the emergence of life from inorganic or inanimate substances and deeming evolution an impotent process.
 - The Miller-Urey experiment of 1953 attempted to prove that life developed solely via natural causes. This experiment endeavored to show that electrical discharges or lightening could produce simple organic compounds that could then combine to produce more complex compound and eventually life. However, there is no evidence to suggest the composition of the early Earth’s atmosphere. Secondly, the products of the reactions in this experiment were removed from the reaction chamber; otherwise they would be destroyed by the electrical charges that produced them. The efforts of these scientists were unsuccessful due to the utter complexity of the various proteins involved in life processes. Even today few evolutionary scientists attempt to experiment in this area due to the astronomical complexity of a cell and life itself. Furthermore, they would not want to bring attention to this unsolved problem.
- Chance – With regard to the theory of evolution, valid scientific laws have shown that matter has no spontaneous origin and natural processes are incapable of creating life. Science has thus rejected these two foundational cornerstones of the evolutionary process - matter and nature. Therefore, it is rather silly to even consider the probability of events that have no basis in reality. Furthermore, as we examine the various supposed proofs for evolution such as natural selection or genetic mutations, it is not surprising that we find these proofs are either unfounded or incoherent. The fact is that mutations consistently result in the loss or destruction of genetic material and therefore cannot represent a process resulting in the progressive development of life forms. However, God’s original, perfect creation is not random and personifies true order, logic and morality, having the hallmark of design, not chance. During the first century AD Paul made mention of this fact in Romans 1:19-20, “For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse.” Additionally, creationists including Galileo, Kepler and Newton noted God’s design as they studied and marveled at the fine-tuned nature of the universe.
- “Millions of years.” - These expansive periods of time add nothing to the vacuous theory of evolution, given the fact that its previously defined pillars including the spontaneous generation of matter, the futility of nature producing life and senseless dimension of chance generating design do nothing to support this senseless theory.

- Dinosaurs represent the primary method of introducing the construct of “millions of years” to children. Being at a relative primitive level of cognitive development, pre-adolescents typically believe what they are told, therefore accepting dinosaurs as examples of prehistoric creatures as a fact. Consequently, the disingenuous nature of the evolutionary perspective is to implant this pivotal “seed” within the minds of our youth at this very vulnerable time of their lives. A massive amount of evidence for dinosaurs living within a biblical timeframe is denied by these secularists. Yet history is replete with references to “dinosaur like” creatures (dragons) and various representations as found in ancient cultures across the face of the Earth. Furthermore, the term “dragon” occurs within the languages of the peoples on numerous continents. Contrary to supporting the “millions of years” was the finding of Mary Schweitzer, an evolutionary paleontologist from North Carolina State University. In 2007 she discovered intact blood vessels and blood cells in the thigh bone of a Tyrannosaurus rex. Scientists can offer no rational explanation of how this organic material could have avoided the process of decomposition for 65 to 230 million years, which is demanded by the secular theory of evolution. It is not that similar finds of soft tissue have also been found in supposedly prehistoric samples; the basic problem for evolutionary scientists is that the evidence found by Mary Schweitzer, “one of their own,” unmistakably contradicts their mantra of “millions of years.”
- To support a concept or theory, it is commonplace for evolutionist scientists to create visual representations of their hypotheses. Consequently, the geologic column was developed to illustrate the supposed history of the world and the various life forms that evolved during specific timeframes. However, this visual construct represents less than 1% of the rock strata on the Earth’s surface. In many places the rock layers do not agree with the sequences found in the published “geologic column;” however, all of these layers give evidence for Noah’s Flood. Many of these layers extend across continents with some sedimentary layers of North America extending as far as Europe. Within these rock layers discrete biological forms and no transitional forms are found, this documenting the proclamation of Genesis 1 regards God’s creation of specific “kinds” in contrast to supporting evolution’s theory of the transition from molecules-to-man.
- Radiometric dating, the gold standard used by evolutionary scientists, is based on a number of unprovable assumptions that have been shown to be neither valid nor reliable. One example of this involves the radiometric dating of rock materials resulting from the eruption of Mt. St. Helens on May 18, 1980, which range from 350,000 to 2.8 million years of age. Additionally, the results of the Carbon-14 dating technique used in testing organic matter yields results well within the range of a young Earth timeframe.

A helpful acronym in recalling the foregoing supposed pillars of evolution is Mother (material) Nature (nature) Champions (chance) Magic (“millions of years.”) When dealing with the issue of

origins, realize that the heart of the evolutionary storyline involves making much “noise about low hanging fruit” such as Darwin’s tree of life, the “millions of years” and/or the supposed transition from the great apes to man. Understand that this manipulative device is a ploy deflecting focus from the inherent fatal flaws and contradictory nature of evolutionary theory. Since science has been historically defined as based wholly on human reason, Scripture has been relegated to a mythical status. In contrast to the tact of secularists, the preponderance of time, money and efforts of creation scientists and apologists is often spent dueling with proponents of evolution over various areas of evidence. These efforts represent distractions for which evolutionary scientists have developed unshakable assumptions based on their religious dogmatism of materialistic naturalism. Therefore, a far more productive approach would be to attack the indefensible foundations of evolutionary theory: matter, nature, chance and “millions of years.”

Even without referencing Scripture, definite rational for the creation of the universe, nature and life are self-evident. Historically, philosophers have pointed to three arguments in this regard: teleology, cosmology, and morality. Socrates (470-399 BC) formulated the teleological argument for an intelligent creator based on the universe being marvelously fine-tuned and therefore designed. The cosmological argument for God was offered by Thomas Aquinas (1225-1274), an Italian theologian who stated that anything that exists has a beginning and therefore a cause. In contrast, the early Greeks assumed that the universe was eternal. William Paley (1743-1805), an English clergyman and forerunner of the contemporary intelligent design movement, used the metaphor of finding a watch while on a walk through the heath. In offering this construct, Paley pointed to design, a Creator and rejected the notion of design being a chance occurrence. Additionally, in 1973 Brandon Carter proposed the anthropic principle which states that numerous and highly complex physical factors converge to make the Earth hospitable for life, this commonly referred to as the “goldilocks principle.”

Lastly, morality offers an unmistakable argument for God’s existence. This construct is inherent in the social fabric of man as was clearly delineated in the writings of the Christian apologist, C. S. Lewis. With Darwinian evolution, the survival of the most fit has resulted in society adopting the immoral practices of abortion, euthanasia and Hitler’s attempted creation of a master race in Germany through eliminating the supposedly defective and inferior people groups. Therefore, although proponents of evolution give voice to the construct of morality, they do not and cannot rationally support this construct since a non-material concept such as morality is contradictory to a philosophy which claims that only material constructs exist. In this, proponents of evolution consistently contradict themselves since, in opposition to their reliance on chance events, given the marvelously God-ordered mind of man, they use logic and the language of mathematics to defend their fabricated theory. In truth, by their efforts to reject their Creator-God, they are actually witnessing to his existence.

Robert Jastrow, an American agnostic astronomer and physicist believes there is nothing beyond material phenomena, claiming neither a belief nor unbelief in God. However, contrary to his philosophical position, he explained his confusion as follows: “At this moment it seems as though science will never be able to raise the curtain on the mystery of creation. For the scientist

who has lived by his faith in the power of reason, the story ends like a bad dream. He has scaled the mountains of ignorance; he is about to conquer the highest peak; as he pulls himself over the final rock, he is greeted by a band of theologians who have been sitting there for centuries.”

Some ask, “What is the only true religion if indeed there is one?” Others may claim that all religions are the same. Ravi Zacharias answers these concerns in his explanation of why Christianity is the only religion offering coherent answers that stand the test of time. He points out that Holy Scripture answers life’s four most basic questions: origin, meaning, morality and destiny. Within this paradigm, Scripture presents empirical evidence, logical reasoning and a coherent philosophy. In terms of origins, God created the universe and all within it out of absolutely nothing by his almighty Word, perfect in every respect like God himself. However, God did make man from the dust of the ground. Man lost that perfect image of God through Adam’s sin. The true meaning in life comes via the work of the Holy Spirit with man through coming to faith in Jesus Christ as his Savior and Redeemer from sin and sharing this wonderful message with others. Morality involves accepting and following God’s rules and respecting and worshipping him as the Creator-God. Man’s true destiny is found in receiving the free gift of eternal life in heaven and living there with God and worshipping and praising him throughout all eternity.

Martin Luther, in challenging the abuse, corruption and dogma of the Catholic Church, stated that man’s awareness of God is based on the existence of the universe, man’s conscience and Scripture. Philosophers such as C. S Lewis have pointed to the conscience of man as evidence for a Creator since matter cannot possibly produce non-material outcomes. In breaking from the dogma of the Catholic Church, Luther vehemently accepted the supernatural hand of God in nature and, of course, within the Genesis 1-11 creation and global flood narratives. His truly authentic biblical approach is revealed in the following creation-related perspectives of Genesis:

- Genesis 1:1 declared that God created the universe out of absolutely nothing, the Hebrew word for “create” meaning to make from nothing.
- Genesis 1:12 states the following, “And God saw that it was good,” meaning that God’s original creation was perfect in every way, like God himself.
- Genesis 1: 12 & 24 records that God created plants and animals, all of which reproduce “after their kind,” i.e., dogs bearing dogs, cat bearing cats, etc. The view offered by proponents of evolution requires transformations from lower to higher life forms ultimately resulting in the evolution of man. In opposition to this perspective, entropy (science’s second law of thermodynamics) articulates that the natural state of matter is from order to disorder, therefore contradicting evolution’s positive transformation from one “kind” to another. The notion that genetic mutations are the central factor in the evolution of life is highly problematic since mutations result in the loss and degeneration of genetic materials which, in man, generate diseases such as cancer and disorders including manic depression and various forms of mental retardation.
- Genesis 1:27 states that God instituted marriage between one man and one woman.
- In Genesis 2:17, God commanded man not to eat of the tree of the knowledge of “good and evil” in the middle of the garden; however, man did not follow God’s command. Because

of Adam's disobedience, he no longer lived in the perfect state of God's original creation, but was plagued by sin and disorder. Man's sin resulted in God cursing the ground making man's life one of toil until he passes this life in death and increased greatly the woman's pain in childbirth (Genesis 3:15-19). Furthermore, the Earth suffered the curse of disorder, no longer being perfect. Roman 8:22 refers to this event as follows, "We know that that whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time." A very important theological perspective in this regard is that God is not responsible for the pain and suffering that occur to man and the disorder that is within nature, these circumstances wholly being the result of man's sin. Given man's fallen state and God's enduring love for man, God promised to send a Savior to redeem man from his sinful and lost condition. So through the sacrifice of God's Son, Jesus Christ, mankind has the opportunity to live with God forever in a redeemed and perfect state.

Historically, creationist scientists have made phenomenal contributions to human knowledge. These include Leonardo da Vinci (1452-1519; hydraulics), Johann Kepler (1571-1630; celestial mechanics), Francis Bacon (1561-1626; scientific method), Isaac Newton (1642-1727; calculus), Gregor Mendel (1822-1884; genetics) and Carolus Linnaeus (1707-1778; systematic biology) to name but a few. Renowned scientists who were staunch opponents of evolutionary theory include Louis Agassiz (1807-1873; glacial geology), Lord Kelvin (1824-1907; energetics), Louis Pasteur (1822-1895; bacteriology) and James Clerk Maxwell (1831-1879; electrodynamics). These geniuses are in stark contrast to the overwhelming majority of research scientists today who embrace the theory of evolution. A reasonable question to ask is what forces in society over the centuries have caused many within our contemporary scientific community to abandon the message of Scripture and the Genesis narrative?

To answer this we will begin by considering the Enlightenment, commonly referred to as the "Age of Reason." This 18th century European movement rejected traditional authority and embraced only rational thought processes. Baruch Spinoza, a Dutch philosopher, pioneered this movement in developing the groundwork for biblical criticism by challenging the traditions of the Catholic Church and arguing that God is an abstract and impersonal being. An outgrowth of the Enlightenment was the scientific method, which in concert with Spinoza reliance on naturalism rejected any consideration of the supernatural.

The political and economic turmoil of the late 1920's and 1930's eventually produced the humanist movement that embraced socialist and communistic ideology. This ideology emphasized human autonomy and global control; it denied the existence of any god as a divine being. Man had become the measure of all things. The current evolutionary model reflects this same philosophy by denying any supernatural involvement in the universe. Consequently, matter must have been pre-existent, nature must be a sufficient force, chance events must be able to make products that look like they were designed and the universe must be old enough to produce the current state of things – the universe, the earth, plants, and animals and man without any miraculous or supernatural involvement. This deceitful worldview is offered to our youth as a fact with the goal

of thwarting a careful examination of the various assumptions, fabrications and the incoherence of this empty philosophy of materialistic naturalism.

This philosophy of modernism developed in America as a rejection of European culture and the traditions associated with the Catholic Church. It pursued social progress, rejecting all religious and moral principles and ushered in a new era of permissiveness. Its proponents attacked the creation narrative as ancient myth, viewed the God of the Old Testament as a hateful and vengeful being, discounted Scripture's code of morality and adopted a higher critical method of biblical interpretation. Higher criticism exclusively used reason to scrutinize foundational disciplines of a society including theology. In attempting to undermine the original Scriptural message, the denial of prophecy, biblical inspiration and the supernatural was a given.

By the middle of the late 20th century the reactionary movement of postmodernism emerged. Simply put, postmodernists denied historical realities, reinterpreting history in order to gain power over others through their manufactured agenda. Therefore, revisionist history became a source of empowerment and propaganda for use in philosophical, political and social realms. For a postmodernist, there are no facts, only fictional redefinitions of history. In contrast to a Christian worldview which views history as the revealing of God's divine plan to redeem a fallen humanity, the postmodernist's perspective is that life is relatively meaningless, having no ultimate purpose.

Given the philosophical metamorphoses in western civilization and within America during the last few centuries, there has been a transition from a reliance on Scripture to reason, embracing the naturalism and rejecting the supernatural. These transformations have resulted in the secular reinterpretation of Scripture and the discarding of biblical morality. With post-modernists, history and Scripture has been reinterpreted for the empowerment of a variety of social causes. Therefore, given this ongoing avalanche of dis-information, it is critically important to challenge assumptions that undermine the veracity of Scripture in general and the Gospel in particular. This secular menace is most clearly illustrated with evolutionary theory which is endemic within our society. Therefore, a beginning consideration is to question built-in assumptions when they arise as they do within almost any conversation regarding origins, particularly with regard to the Genesis narrative and the age of the Earth. The apostle Paul's example in his speech in the Areopagus (Acts 17:23-34) is much like the ministries of young Earth apologetic groups such as Answers in Genesis and the Institute for Creation research which consistently confront the validity and reliability of the secular message of evolution. Paul's tact in challenging his Greek audience was to explain the veracity of Scripture and God's message of salvation through the redemptive work of Jesus Christ.

In summarizing the conceptual framework of the book, *Science Destroys the Evolutionary Paradigm*, our supernatural and perfect God created the universe and all within it in six literal 24-hour days. God himself offered a witness of this event in Exodus 2:11 as follows: "For in six days the Lord made the earth, the sky and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day." The Scriptural narrative provides a history of the Jewish people and of man's creation, his fall into sin and God's promise to redeem his people from their sinful condition. This promise was fulfilled when God send his only Son, Jesus Christ, into the world to suffer and die, covering the sins of mankind in the sight of God.

At the most fundamental level, evolution's storyline violates the most basic scientific laws proving it to be a false and incoherent theory. Its proponents attempt to substitute natural processes (nature) for the acts of a supernatural God. This philosophy was initially an outgrowth of the Enlightenment (Age of Reason) that developed toward the end of the 18th century. The scientific law regarding the conservation of matter and energy is a natural law and provides no valid scientific basis for the origin of matter. Evolutionary scientists, given their definition of the scientific method, demand that only human reason is used to determine outcomes. This premise leaves them in the untenable position of having no explanation for the existence of matter, and obviously, without matter there is no foundational unit on which evolution can proceed. Given this quandary, these so called experts have literally "painted themselves into a corner" since the answer to their dilemma is that matter is of a supernatural origin, being the result of an almighty God who created the universe out of absolutely nothing. Furthermore, the notion that nature is a dynamic force in its own right is baseless. Nature is a product, it is not a cause. The law of biogenesis rejects the spontaneous generation of life and leaves no viable avenue for nature to initiate the process of biological evolution. Adding chance events to this deceitful theory to bypass the creative act of an almighty God's is contradicted by the unlimited evidences of God's incredible design in nature and in the fine-tuning of the universe including the anthropic principle which states that numerous complex physical factors converge to support life on the Earth. As for the "millions of years" which supposedly support the construct of evolution, that consideration is baseless given a theory that is not supported by any valid scientific construct.

Proponents of evolution, having no actual scientific foundation for their theory, regularly relegate Scripture to the status of being myth. This most frequently occurs by characterizing the creation narrative and Noah's flood in the book of Genesis as allegory. Even some Christian denominations denigrate our supernatural God by attributing to nature unwarranted and creative powers and infusing "millions of years" into the creation narrative. This viewpoint implies that God used the tools of death and disease in the creation of man. Theologically, this makes absolutely no sense since it implies that God is contradicting his holy and perfect nature by utilizing sin and disease to achieve his creative act. Presenting this contradictory picture cannot only create doubt in the minds of some, but it can also generate unbelief in vulnerable souls. Additionally, claiming that man evolved after "millions of years" of evolution contradicts Christ's clear statement found in Matthew 19:4 and Mark 10:6 using these words, "From the beginning of creation God made them, male and female.

To those who embrace evolution, life is typically viewed as hopeless and without meaning. Furthermore, true morality is rejected in the face of Darwin's the survival of the fittest perspective which implies that only the fit will survive. When this philosophy is applied within a societal setting, it has been used to justify eliminating the weak/unwanted as occurs with abortion and happened with the holocaust in Germany during World War II due to Hitler's efforts to create a master race by eliminating of the infirm and the Jewish and Slavic peoples.

On a most fundamental level, skeptics need to be challenged to realistically think through the basis of their empty philosophy and offer a reasonable defense. This is exemplified by the Greek

word “apologia” which means to defend. Holy Scripture directs us to defend our faith in Jesus Christ with all meekness and humility as stated in I Peter 3:15 “... always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have.” Therefore, with all gentleness and respect, it would be appropriate to confront individuals who accept evolution as a fact in order to help them reassess the validity of their empty worldview. One approach would be to ask questions which illustrate the contradictory nature of the philosophy of evolution, thus offering an apologist the opportunity to ultimately share how Scripture deals with the same matter and the coherence of God’s creation and his plan for man. Based on these apologetic cliff notes, questions such as the following would prove useful:

- What is the origin of the matter in the universe? Nature has no answer for the existence of matter; therefore, the only default is that matter is of a supernatural origin.
- How is non-living matter transformed into the incredible complex formations found in life forms? Spontaneous generation of life is rejected by the law of biogenesis; therefore naturalism again has no realistic answer for this most basic question.
- Since the law of entropy documents the ongoing transition of order to disorder of matter which is inherit within genetic mutations, how can the theory of evolution justify the positive transformation of molecules-to-man?

Such an approach attacks evolution’s indefensible positions on these four concepts: matter, nature, chance and “millions of years.” First, evolutionary theory has no scientific explanation for the origin of the “singularity” that supposedly exploded and eventually produced the universe. Second, evolution claims that nature possesses a force adequate to produce the universe from nothing. Third, evolution requires chance random events to produce the complexity and variety we currently observe. Evolutionists additionally argue that the complexity and perceived design of the universe are the result of random events. In their view, the universe just appears to be designed and that there is no supernatural designer. Fourth, “millions of years” is the final fallback position for the evolutionary paradigm. Someone has said, “given enough time everything can happen.” These secularists ascribe to time a creative power which cannot be verified. Any measurement supporting long geological ages to the universe depend upon countless unprovable assumptions. Not a single one of these evolutionary foundational stones can survive critical empirical scientific scrutiny. Therefore, evolution has no empirical scientific foundation.

In contrast to evolution and its byproduct of humanism, the Scriptural narrative offers a philosophy that is coherent, being a valid reflection of our perfect and loving God. This evidence of God’s compassion is shared in Isaiah 55:8-9, “For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.” Scripture truly provides a worldview that fits the facts, lacks contradictions and is useful in life. This Christian worldview answers all of life’s most basic questions in contrast to all other worldviews, these answers being offered as follows:

- The origin of matter, the universe, life, nature and man.
- The source of logic, order, fine-tuning and design in the universe.
- Man's ability to reason and his consciousness and feelings.
- How and why man and animals differ.
- The source disorder in man and nature.
- The origin of morality.
- Why there is evil in the world in the face of a good and perfect Creator-God.
- Man's relationship with his Creator and his purpose in life.
- Man's ultimate value beyond his earthly existence.

Helpful young Earth apologetic resources include the following:

- *Acts and Facts* – A free monthly magazine is offered by Institute for Creation Research.
- *From Atheism to Christianity*, C. S. Lewis' life story by Joel Heck.
- *Guide to Creation Basics*, available through the Institute for Creation Research.
- *I Don't Have Enough Faith to Be an Atheist* by Norman Geisler and Frank Turek.
- Internet sites including Answers in Genesis and the Institute for Creation Research.
- *Is Genesis History?* – A feature film.
- *Life's Big Questions God's Big Answer* by Brad Alles.
- Mind Siege by Tim LaHaye and David Noebel.
- *The Ultimate Proof of Creation, Logic and Faith*, etc. by Jason Lisle.
- Sources of apologetic materials, Answers in Genesis, Institute for Creation Research and Master Books.
- *10 Basics Every Creationist Must Know*, a brochure offered by Answers in Genesis.

These Apologetic Cliff Notes represent an excerpt from *Science Destroys the Evolutionary Paradigm* by Dr. Jim Pagels and edited by Dr. John Fricke, former science professor at Concordia University, Ann Arbor, Michigan. A number of free apologetic resources dealing with the ministry to children, adolescents and adults by Dr. Jim are available at jimpagels08@comcast.net. Additionally, Dr. Pagels is available to present at schools and conferences on a pro bono basis.

Appendix H

Key Aspects of the Creation and Global Flood Narratives

The Creation Narrative

Genesis 1:1 – “In the beginning God created the heavens and the Earth.” God created matter, energy, space, light and time “from absolutely nothing.” This supernatural act is in contrast to the evolutionary worldview that depends on the pre-existence of matter or an eternal universe. The materialistic belief that matter is the fundamental substance in nature violates the Law of Conservation of Matter. With matter converting to energy and energy to matter, there is no possibility for its spontaneous origin. Some Greek philosophers believed in an eternal universe as did Einstein until 1929. It was then that Hubble discovered the expanding universe which established that the universe had a beginning leading to the Big Bang theory. In contrast, the deists of the “Age of Reason” claimed that God created the universe but then claimed that natural processes resulted in the emergence life forms including man. In this drive toward theistic evolution based on materialistic naturalism, the Scriptural doctrine of a supernatural God was denied and the Bible was viewed as a book of moral pronouncements.

Genesis 1:5, 7, 13, 19, and 25 – Following each creation day the phrase, “the evening and the morning were the “_____” day, was invoked using the Hebrew word “yom,” meaning a 24-hour period of time. The 18th century philosophy that resulted due to the “Age of Reason” rejected Scripture and replaced the supernatural God with a naturalistic explanation for the existence of life on Earth. This was followed in the 19th century with Darwin’s theory of evolution and Lyell popularizing the concept of “millions of years.” The philosophy of old Earth creationism followed which inserted vast eras of time at some point within the creation narrative of Genesis. Currently most Christian churches in America ascribe to some form of theistic evolution leading to a focus primarily on the New Testament and moral behavior. The simple fact is that a holy and unchangeable God could not deny his basic nature by using “millions of years” of death and disease to create mankind. Given this distortion of Christian theology God can be characterized as unloving, masking his true nature and Christ’s redemptive act. Man could then deny God’s existence since a loving God would be characterized as not permitting harmful/bad things to happen. With the rejection of man’s rebellion into sin, the message of God’s love is often lost.

Genesis 1: 4, 10, 12, 18, 21, 31 - God consistently exclaimed that his creation was “good” and in verse 31 he said that it was “very good.” By this pronouncement God stated that his creation was perfect in every way, perfect as is the nature of God, perfect and without blemish or sin.

Genesis 1:14-19 – On the fourth day of creation God made the sun, moon and stars. Evolutionists claim that the universe resulted from chance events, but they simultaneously depend on order found in the fine-tuned constants/forces in gravitation, electromagnetism, the nuclear dimensions and cosmology to carry on their scientific pursuits. Concurrently upholding chance and order is an contradictory and incoherent position, thus proving skeptics adhere to a false theory.

Genesis 1:27-31 – God created man with unique features including the ability to reason, express emotions, communicate via language and with physical features distinctive to man alone. DNA has been determined to be a language and is the product of intelligence meaning it cannot be the result of chance events as required by the theory of evolution. Only Scripture has a consistent philosophical foundation in contrast to evolution’s dependency on random events which proves it to be a contradictory and false philosophy.

Genesis 2:7 – God used the physical substance of dust of the ground, to “create” man. God also created man with an immortal soul, an entity apart from his physical nature.

Genesis 2:16-17 – With these verses God documents that man has a free will and unlike the good angels who were confirmed in their bliss, can make choices for himself. This verse clarifies that God makes the rules regarding his creation, commanding Adam and Eve not to eat of the “tree of the knowledge of good and evil” in the middle of the garden.

Genesis 2:24 - God instituted the holy estate of marriage between one man and one woman.

Genesis 3:15 – In spite of man’s rebellion, out of his undying love for man, God promised a Savior from man’s lost condition due to his sin. This verse foretells the warfare between Satan and the woman’s seed, Jesus Christ, who will crush Satan’s power by keeping God’s law perfectly and thereby redeem man from his sinful condition so he may live with God throughout eternity. Although stated here rather metaphorically, the remainder of the Old Testament embellishes this theme leading up to the coming of Christ, the Redeemer.

Genesis 3:9-12 – Due to man’s rebellion against God’s rule of not eating of the “tree of good and evil,” man was ashamed of his sin verifying his sense of morality. The theory of evolution has no materialistic explanation for morality, yet this moral sense is universal in mankind. However, evolution’s “survival of the fittest” denies morality by asserting that “millions of years” of death

occurred as the human race evolved, thus denying this universal truth found in Scripture and thereby demonstrating that evolution is a false theory.

Genesis 3:16-21 – The results of man’s rebellion changed everything. Man now struggled with “thorns and thistles,” either plagued him directly or metaphorically. A woman’s pain in child birth was multiplied and she was to be subject to her husband. In Genesis 3:19, the phrase “for dust thou art and unto dust shalt thou return” proclaims the profound truth that man will experience death. This passage illustrates that the drastic consequences of man’s “original sin.” With the “fall of man,” the universe began to transition from perfection to disorder. This relentless progression is even exemplified within functions in regard to heredity. Although many genetic mutations may be neutral, some are degenerative causing disorder and diseases. Darwin’s “tree of life” required progressive development of genetic information from species to species. However, each step up his ladder of life would actually contain more and more genetic errors, thus resulting in the human genome slowly and progressively devolving as is the actual case.

In his pride and defiance of God, man does not accept the fact that increasing disorder throughout the world is a result of man’s original sin. Hence, he blames God for disease, disorder and natural disasters. In this matter, natural man’s typical response is, “How could a good God permit this to occur?” or “This unacceptable event proves that there is no God.” Genesis 3:15 clearly states that even with the disaster of original sin and its consequences, God has a plan to destroy the evil intentions of the devil and redeem man from his sinful condition.

Man Denigrates the Creation Narrative

When reading the chronical of God’s creation to a child, there is little doubt that this narrative is a simple but profound description of the supernatural hand of God in the formation of the universe, the earth, life and the crown of his creation, man. Paul talks about God’s omnipotence in contrast to man’s prideful response in Romans 1:18-22 “For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth. For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So, they are without excuse. For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened. Claiming to be wise, they became fools, and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things.” However, man frequently uses his powers of reason in opposition to the truth of God’s Word, thus rejecting either selected parts or the totality of Scripture and demeaning the Scriptural narrative of the creation. These skeptics ascribe the universe and all of life to the powers inherent to matter, nature, chance events and “millions of years.” This is typically referred to as materialistic naturalism. However, there are inexplicable problems with this pseudo-science since matter’s origin is from the supernatural “hand of God,” chance does not create design, nature has no intrinsic power of its own and

“millions of years” does not add feasibility to the creation of design, order, and the logic and reasoning powers of man.

In contrast, some take the intermediate position, accepting molecules-to-man evolution, while also embracing the Scriptural narrative regarding the New Testament and the redemptive act of Jesus Christ. This attempt to harmonize Scripture and the “millions of years” attributed to the pseudo-science of evolution is typically referred to as theistic evolution or evolutionary creationism. This approach is referred to in Matthew 9:17 as follows, “Neither is new wine put into old wineskins. If it is, the skins burst and the wine is spilled and the skins are destroyed. But new wine is put into fresh wineskins, and so both are preserved.” Therefore, the dichotomy of God being supernatural with regard to his death, resurrection and redemptive act for mankind foundational to all of Scripture cannot be an outgrowth of a non-event reported in Genesis 1-3. If these pivotal events in the redemption narrative of the New Testament are the result of mythological occurrences, the authenticity and validity of Scripture is non-existent. The reasoning of man can never legitimately trump the action of a supernatural God as offered to man in Holy Scripture.

Prior to the Enlightenment, scientific geniuses, e.g., Bacon, Galileo, Kepler and Pascal embraced the truth of God’s narrative in Scripture. However, following the work of Darwin and Lyell things radically changed. For some, the evolutionary storyline was fully embraced whereas others adopted the compromised position, attempting to be relevant by harmonizing the “millions of years” within evolution’s storyline with Scripture. This latter group, namely old Earth creationist, elevated the reasoning of man over the authority of the Word of God. Once the creation and flood narrative of Genesis are compromised, there would be no reason to believe any part of the rest of Scripture. Specific problems caused by inserting “millions of years” into the creation narrative include vast periods of death and disease occurring prior to the Bible’s account of the creation of man. Additional problems are - 1) How could a perfect God use the degenerative agents of sin, i.e., disease and death, in creating man?, 2) How could there be a literal Adam within an evolutionary scenario?, 3) Can the 24-hour day in the Genesis creation account be taken literally?, 4) Is there such a thing as sin [original sin]?, 5) Wasn’t the flood of Scripture just a local event?, 6) Was the dispersion from Babel a real event?, 7) Did mankind evolve from the great apes?, 8) When did man receive a soul? If the soul was an outgrowth of evolution, it would require inserting a supernatural event into a process that is claimed by skeptics to be solely a natural process. This is contradictory to the evolutionary principle that only natural processes produce evolutionary change. Lastly, let us remember that faith alone is the sole requirement for salvation as Luther so eloquently declared during the Reformation and was illustrated again and again in the 11th chapter of Hebrews; hence, although old Earth creationism is clearly problematic, it is critical to remember that faith is God’s only requirement for salvation.

During the 18 century “Age of Reason” man adopted the concept of “millions of years” to support growing opposition to scriptural narrative. This initiative resulted in questions such as. “Was the Earth created in six literal days?” or “Was there a literal Adam and a global flood, etc.?” All of this represents man caving to secular pseudo-science and results in undermining the biblical

message and creating numerous inconsistencies within the Scriptural record. These contradictions, upon examination, can cause those with inquiring minds to reject Scripture as a false and meaningless philosophy. Since death and disease documented in the fossil record occurred before man emerged on the scene the question becomes, what other parts of Scripture are untrustworthy? In this regard, Scripture clearly documents the literal six day 24-hour creation narrative with Christ himself stating in Matthew 19:4 and Mark 10:6 “from the beginning of creation, God made them, male and female.” So the question becomes, “How could a holy god make such a false pronouncement, etc.?” Therefore, transforming the creation narrative into allegory/poetry can result in decimating the entire scriptural narrative in the mind of man and undermining the faith of many.

The Global Genesis Flood

God saw that the people of the Earth were corrupt and filled with violence and determined to make an end of all flesh. However, he found Noah, his three sons and their wives to be faithful to him, so God made a covenant to save them from the impending disaster. To accomplish this, God told Noah to build a large ark, giving him explicit directions in that regard. Furthermore, Noah was to take seven pairs of the ceremonially clean animal “kinds” and two of the unclean animals “kinds,” male and female, along on the ark.

Noah was six hundred years old when the flood of waters came upon the Earth. And as reported in Genesis 7:11, “...and on that day all the fountains of the great deep burst forth and the windows of the heavens were opened.” It consequently rained for forty days and forty nights. The waters increased and bore up the ark so mightily that all the high mountains of the Earth were covered. All living things that had the breath of life on the face of the Earth, man, the animals, creeping things and the birds of heaven were blotted out. The creatures of the water were not specifically mentioned, but logically creatures in the water would not be affected by more water. Given that caveat, only inhabitants on the ark were saved.

The waters prevailed on the Earth 150 days before beginning to recede, with the ark coming to rest on the mountains of Ararat [a general term in contrast to the snow-capped, volcanic mountain in eastern Turkey bearing that name]. Although there is much conjecture and supposed sightings of the ark, the possibility of finding its remnants appear rather remote. For one, the approximate 4300 years since the flood event would suggest that the structure itself would have disintegrated. Additionally, in searching on Mt. Ararat as has been the case, it seems rather dubious to assume that one can be assured that Mt. Ararat is synonymous with the mountains of Ararat reported in Scripture. Furthermore, the post flood volcanic activity on Mt. Ararat would likely be a confounding influence even if the wood had not been repurposed or decomposed. The Genesis flood was about one year in length at which time Noah, his family and their wives, exited the ark along with all of the animals. Noah built an altar and offered a sacrifice to the Lord. The Bible tells us that when the LORD smelled the pleasing aroma, he said in his heart as recorded in Genesis 8:21, “I will never again curse the ground because of man, for the intention of man's heart is evil from his youth. Neither will I ever again strike down every living creature as I have done.

And while the earth remains, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night, shall not cease.”

The term, catastrophic, best describes the global Genesis flood although it would seem to be an understatement of what actually occurred. At the time of creation the Earth was comprised of a single landmass. This supercontinent was acted upon by multiple forces including the rapid movement of the Earth’s tectonic plates, tsunamis, and volcanic activity fracturing and rearranging that land into the present seven continents. One of the prominent evidences of this cataclysmic event is the worldwide distribution of fossils across the Earth. Additional examples include marine fossils found on the tops of mountains, massive deposits of oil and coal, expansive megasequences of sedimentary rock across and traversing continents and up to twenty-four animal phyla in the Cambrian layers deposited on the top of creation rock with no ancestral forms for these phyla being found in lower rock layers.

Secularists reject the biblical narrative claiming that the worldwide distribution of fossils resulted from a number of local floods. The basis of this refusal, in addition to the prideful nature of man, is that as geological discoveries accumulated largely during the 19th century. Individuals including Charles Lyell, building on Darwin’s theory of evolution, popularized the concept of “millions of years” in supporting the claimed legitimacy of the developing evolutionary theory. Concerning these expansive periods of time, the rationalization offered was “given enough time, anything can happen.” The term applied to this construct was uniformitarianism which means that the geological and weathering events taking place on the Earth’s surface are the same now as they have been in the past. Therefore, a pseudo-scientific premise was created to counter the Scriptural narrative, thus supporting the secular worldview that the universe and all life is solely the result of matter, nature, chance events and “millions of years.”

Evolution was specifically developed to supplant the evidence of the supernatural God. One example of melding evolutionary principles to theology was first popularized by Scottish theologian, Thomas Chalmers, early in the 19th century with the “gap theory.” Later, Cyrus Scofield brought this theory to America by embracing it in his 1917 edition of the Bible. In it he theorized that following God’s creation of the universe, cosmic evolution took place producing the solar system about five billion years ago, followed by the various geologic ages. Referencing Genesis 1:2 with the words, "And the earth was without form and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep," he proposed that a devastating global cataclysm occurred destroying all life on Earth leaving a vast fossil graveyard. Other similar theories attempting to accommodate extended periods of time into the biblical narrative include theistic evolution, day-age theory, progressive creation, etc. The truth is that most major Christian church organizations in America reject the literal six-day 24 hour creation narrative.

Fundamental to understanding the global Genesis Flood is realizing that God is both the Creator and Law-Giver. As Creator, God is sovereign, ruling over his entire creation. This point is clearly illustrated in the following passages: Isaiah 43:15 "I am the Lord your Holy One, the Creator of Israel, your King;" Psalm 115:3, “But our God is in the heavens; He does whatever he pleases;” and Psalm 96:11, “Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice; And let them say

among the nations, the Lord reigns." Considering God's sovereignty, in spite of the sinfulness of man, God has directed the course of Israel and the surrounding nations in fulfilling his promise in Genesis 3:15 to send a Savior from sin from Israel's inception with Abraham, its sojourn in Egypt, through the time of the judges, the united and divided kingdoms, the Babylonian Exile, Israel's return to Jerusalem, the intertestamental period and finally the birth, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. God is truly sovereign over the nations as he is over all of his creation.

As Creator of a perfect universe, God also acted as a Law-Giver to keep his creation perfect and also renders judgment when his laws are not kept. Here are some examples of God's providence: Jeremiah 1:16, "I will pronounce My judgments on them concerning all their wickedness, whereby they have forsaken Me and have offered sacrifices to other gods, and worshiped the works of their own hands;" Isaiah 2:4, "And He will judge between the nations, And will render decisions for many peoples;" and II Timothy 4:8, "In the future there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day; and not only to me, but also to all who have loved His appearing." God in giving man a conscience wrote his law into the hearts of man. The excessive wickedness of man prior to the flood led to God's judgment of sinful man in sending Noah's flood to destroy all life on the Earth, the exception being the residence of the ark. This catastrophic event illustrates both God's love for those would love him and have faith in his promises and his judgment on those who reject their Creator, the God of the universe and of Scripture.

Appendix G

Apologetic Related Scripture References

Genesis 1:1 - In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved over the face of the waters.

Genesis. 1:5 - And the evening and the morning were the first day.

Genesis 1:9 - And God said, "Let the waters under the heaven be gathered together unto one place, and let the dry land appear:"

Genesis 1:24 - And God said, "Let the earth bring forth the living creature after his kind, cattle...."

Genesis 3:15 - "I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise his head, and thou shalt bruise his heel."

Genesis 3:19 - "...for you are dust, and to dust you shall return."

Genesis 7:11 - ...the same day were all the fountains of the great deep broken up, and the windows of heaven were opened.

Exodus 20:11 - For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day.

Leviticus 17:11 - For the life of the flesh is in the blood, and I have given it to you upon the altar to make atonement for your souls; for it is the blood that makes atonement for the soul;

II Samuel 23:2 - The Spirit of the Lord spoke through me, and His word was on my tongue.

Job 26:7 - He stretches out the north over empty space; He hangs the earth on nothing;

Psalms 11:3 - If the foundations are destroyed, what will the righteous do?

Psalm 102:11-12 - My days are like a shadow that lengthens, And I wither away like grass. But you, Lord, shall endure forever, and the remembrance of Your name to all generations.

Proverbs 26:4 - Answer not a fool according to his folly, lest thou also be like unto him.

Isaiah 51:6 - Lift up your eyes to the heavens, and look at the earth beneath, for the heavens vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment and they who dwell in it will die in like manner; but my salvation will be forever, and my righteousness will never be dismayed.

Is. 55:9 – “For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.”

Matt. 19:4 & Mark 10:6 - “From the beginning of the creation God made them, male and female.”

Matthew 12:40 - “For just as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the great fish, so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.”

Matthew 13:13 - “Therefore I speak to them in parable, because seeing they do not see, and hearing they do not hear, nor do they understand.”

Luke 24:44 - Then (Jesus) said unto them, “... everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled.”

John 1:1-3 – In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him, and without him was not anything made that was made.

John 10:35 - “The Scripture cannot be broken.”

John 14:16- 17 - “And I will ask the Father, and he will give you an advocate to help you and be with you forever – the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him....”

P

Romans 1:18-20 - For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth. For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. For his invisible attributes, namely, is eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse.

Romans 8:22 - For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now.

Colossians 2:8 - See to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy, which depends on human tradition and the basic principles of this world rather than on Christ.

II Thessalonians 2:9-11 - The coming of the lawless one is by the activity of Satan with all power and false signs and wonders, and with all wicked deception for those who are perishing, because they refused to love the truth and so be saved. Therefore God sends them a strong delusion, so that they may believe what is false, in order that all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness.

II Tim. 3:16-17 All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

Hebrews 1:10-12 - You, Lord, in the beginning laid the foundation of the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands. They will perish, but you remain; and they will all grow old like a garment; like a cloak you will fold them up, and they will be changed. But you are the same, and your years will not fail.

Hebrews 8:12 “For I will be merciful toward their iniquities, and I will remember their sins no more.”

James 1:19-20 - Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, because human anger does not produce the righteousness that God desires.

II Peter 1:21 - But men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

Glossary

Answer in Genesis (AiG) – This creationist ministry, once a part of the Creation Science Foundation of Australia, was founded in 1980. AiG, under the leadership of Ken Ham, became its offshoot in America in 1994. It is located in Hebron, Kentucky and opened the Creation Museum in 2007 and the Ark Encounter in 2016, featuring a full-scale model of Noah’s Ark.

Anthropic principal – This principal states that the universe has all of the fundamental physical constants necessary to accommodate life.

Apologetics – This term, taken from the Greek word meaning “to defend,” is a reasoned argument used to justify a religious doctrine.

Big Bang – This is the prevailing cosmological model concerning the origin of the universe which is claimed to have occurred 13.8 billion years ago.

Biologos – This is a Christian advocacy group established in 2007 seeking to harmonize the “millions of years” of evolution with Scripture.

Cambrian Explosion – This term characterizes the sudden incidence of up to twenty-four animal phyla existing immediately atop of creation rock with no ancestral forms found in lower rock layers. This evidence defies the evolutionary storyline.

Carbon 14 (C-14) Testing – C-14 is an isotope of carbon that accumulates in plants and animals while alive and slowly decays upon death.

Catastrophe – This is a major, sudden calamity, e.g., the global Genesis Flood.

Chance – A possibility of a documented event to occur; in this regard, it is unrealistic for the term chance to be attributed to evolution since it represents a theoretical happening.

Conservation of Matter – This physical law of science states that matter can be converted into energy and vice versa; in addition, the law states that matter can neither be created nor destroyed.

Cosmological Argument – This argument for God states that the mere existence of the universe proves that the universe has a source/cause and therefore a creator.

Darwin, Charles – Darwin popularized the theory of evolution in his book, *The Origin of Species*. A second of his books dealt with the evolution of man, *The Descent of Man*.

Deism - An 18th century philosophy that accepted the existence of a creator on the basis of reason but rejected the idea of god interacting with mankind.

Deep Time – The hypothetical multimillion year time frame evolutionary scientists require in support of their theory.

Design – This demonstrates that planning has occurred with regard to a creation, man made or otherwise.

Dinosaur (terrible lizard) – Before 1841 Richard Owen coined the name dinosaur meaning terrible lizard, this being a reptile with legs under its body. Prior to this date in history, this creature was known as a dragon.

DNA – This is a thread-like chain of nucleotides carrying the genetic instructions for growth, development, functioning and reproduction of all known living organisms and many viruses.

Enlightenment- This is an 18th century intellectual movement which focused on human reason and the scientific method in exclusion of the supernatural God of Scripture.

Entropy (Second Law of Thermodynamics) – This law states that all matter transitions from order toward disorder, this being true of man and nature. Movement toward disorder also implies a beginning point as was so eloquently illustrated in Genesis 1:1.

Fossil – The remains of an animal or plant typically found in sedimentary rock which resulted from rapid burial within a water environment in the absence of air.

Globalism – This term refers to the operation of economic and foreign policy on a global basis and involves the movement toward one world government.

Gradualism - The premise that evolution occurs primarily by the accumulation of slow changes within an organism. Term also applies to forces that slowly change the physical features of the Earth. These forces include wind, water and volcanic eruptions.

Haeckel, Ernst– He produced fraudulent drawings illustrating embryotic development in animals paralleling that of man in support of the theory of evolution.

Intelligent Design – This theory states that the universe and life could not have arisen by chance and was therefore designed and created by some intelligent entity.

Humanism – A philosophical movement of the 18th century returning to ancient Greek and Roman thought which attaches primary importance to human rather than divine matters through seeking rational ways of solving problems.

Institute for Creation Research (ICR) - This young Earth ministry, located in Dallas, Texas, was founded under the leadership of Henry Morris, who along with John Whitcomb wrote the groundbreaking creation-oriented book, *The Genesis Flood*. In group embraces Youth Earth creationist research and outreach.

Lyell, Charles – Lyell popularized uniformitarianism in proclaiming that current weathering events are now occurring at the same rate as they have in the past, this theory being contrived to reject the catastrophic Genesis flood as a real event.

Materialism – A philosophy holding that matter is the most fundamental substance in nature and even being responsible for the consciousness and mental interactions of mankind.

Modernism – It is a philosophy which uses reason alone in attacking the creation narrative as ancient myth, viewing the God of the Old Testament as a hateful and vengeful being, discounting Scripture's code of morality and adopting a higher critical attitude toward biblical interpretation.

Moral Law – A group of rules considered to be universal, unchanging and having the sanction of God's will.

Naturalism – A philosophy that holds that only natural laws and forces operate in the universe, thus excluding supernatural events.

Natural Law – This philosophy asserts that certain rights are inherent by virtue of human nature and are understood universally.

Neo-Darwinism – This is a synthesis of Darwin's theory of natural selection and modern population genetics.

Noah's Flood – This was a global, catastrophic water event that reshaped the Earth. In this event, the "severing of the fountains of the deep and the opening of the windows of heaven" precipitated catastrophic flooding, massive volcanism, rapid movement and reshaping of land masses, the creation of megasequences of sedimentary rock and the ushered in the Ice Age.

Plate Tectonics – It is a scientific theory describing the large-scale movement of the seven large plates of the Earth’s lithosphere.

Pitldown man – A fraudulent fossil composed of a human cranium and the jaw of an ape discovered in England in 1912. It was offered as an example of a missing link between man and the great apes until it was declared by scientists to be a hoax in 1953.

Philosophy – This is the study of general and fundamental problems concerning matters such as existence, knowledge, values, reason and the mind, e.g., Christianity and materialistic naturalism [evolution].

Post-Modernism - This reactionary movement of the late 20th century having the premise that that no definite terms, boundaries, or absolute truths exist; this is a vague philosophy with proponents having varying beliefs and opinions on issues.

Radiometric Dating – A method of dating geological or archeological specimens by determining the relative proportions of a particular radioactive isotopes present in a sample.

Sedimentary Rocks – Rocks formed by the deposition and solidification of sediment. These rocks are typically formed in layers and are the result of the settling out of sand, clay and marine animals in water to form sandstone, shale and limestone.

Supernatural – An event that can be attributed to a force beyond the laws of nature, i.e., an act of God.

Survival of the Fittest - A Darwinian term referring to a reproductive success that will leave the most copies of itself.

Transitional Fossil – The fossilized remains that is proposed to be an intermediate between two different species.

Teleology Argument – This argument for God is based on design. In that regard, there is overwhelming evidence that the Earth was designed to support life.

Uniformitarianism – This theory that states that changes in the crust of the Earth during its past history occurred at the same rate as current –day changes. This theory was developed to offered credence to Darwin’s theory of evolution.

Young Earth Creationism – This refers to a movement that supports the Genesis 1-3 literal six day 24-hour creation narrative and also includes a literal Adam.

Biographical Sketch

Dr. Jim Pagels has ministered to children for over a half century in a number of roles including being a classroom teacher, school/clinical psychologist and interim school principal. He was born in Woodlake, MN, and grew up in Watertown, MN, where his father was a Lutheran elementary principal, teacher and church musician. Jim attended Concordia Academy at St. Paul, MN, where he learned his love for the biological sciences and respect for creation apologetics from Professor Paul W. Stor, a graduate of St. Louis Seminary. From there he went on to and graduated from Concordia Teacher's College, River Forest, IL, having his teaching internship at St. Martin's Lutheran in Clintonville, WS. Jim taught at Redford Lutheran School in Detroit, Michigan, for approximately a decade. Dr. Jim received his Ph.D. from University of Detroit Mercy in clinical psychology and ministered at Lutheran Special Education Ministries for thirty-five years administering psycho-educational evaluations to children and providing related consultations to parents and teachers. He is a licensed clinical psychologist in Michigan and, in retirement, continues to complete pro bono evaluations on children within Lutheran Schools while pursuing his apologetic interests.