

Chapter 3: Major Biblical Themes / Chapter 3I: Introduction to Creationism vs. Scientism

I. **Series Theme Verse:** (Matthew 6:10) “Your kingdom come. Your will be done, On earth as it is in heaven.”

II. **Review: Chapters 3G & 3H** (See Titles for Chapters 1 to 15 at Bottom of Page 2.)

- A. Chapter 3G: Creation Scriptures: Surveyed that Creation is Inextricably Intertwined w/ All Scripture.
- B. Chapter 3H: Creation’s Foundational Significance:
- C. Chapter 3I: Creation vs. Scientism: Why the Focused Attack on Creation? Is it “Neutral”? Is it “Science”?
- D. Chapter 3J: Next Week: Introduction to Some Major Evolutionary Fallacies & Leaps of Doubt

III. **Creationism vs. Scientism: Some Foundational Scriptures**

(Genesis 1:1) In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. (Also John 1:1-4ff) (Revelation 22:13)

(Psalm 100:3) Know that the LORD Himself is God; It is He who has made us, and not we ourselves; *We are* His people and the sheep of His pasture. (NASB) (We “Know” the Lord of Creation & Covenant. Epistemology)

(Hebrews 11:1, 3, 6) Now faith is the assurance (substance) of things hoped for, the conviction (evidence) of things not seen. ³ By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible. ⁶ And without faith it is impossible to please Him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that He exists and that He rewards those who seek Him.

(2 Timothy 1:12) For this reason I also suffer these things, but I am not ashamed; for I know whom I have believed and I am convinced that He is able to guard what I have entrusted to Him until that day.

(Luke 16:31) But he said to him, ‘If they do not listen to Moses and the Prophets, they will not be persuaded (convinced) even if someone rises from the dead.’” (NASB / ESV) (“Evidential” vs. “Presuppositional”)

(John 16:8) And He, when He comes, will convict (convince) the world ...

(1 Peter 3:15) ... but sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts, always *being* ready to make a defense (*ἀπολογία* / *apologia*) to everyone who asks you to give an account for the hope that is in you, yet with gentleness and reverence (respect) (NASB / ESV)

(Psalm 14:1-4a) The fool says in his heart, “There is no God.” They are corrupt, they do abominable deeds, there is none who does good. ² The LORD looks down from heaven on the children of man, to see if there are any who understand, who seek after God. ³ They have all turned aside; together they have become corrupt; there is none who does good, not even one. ⁴ Have they no knowledge, all the evildoers ... (Romans 3:10ff)

(John 9:35-41) Jesus ... said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” ... ³⁹ And Jesus said, “For judgment I came into this world, so that those who do not see may see, and that those who see may become blind.” ⁴⁰ Those of the Pharisees who were with Him heard these things and said to Him, “We are not blind too, are we?” ⁴¹ Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would have no sin; but since you say, ‘We see,’ your sin remains. (Blind Paradigms: Religious, Philosophical & Scientific)

(Psalm 131:1-2a) O LORD, my heart is not proud, nor my eyes haughty; Nor do I involve myself in great matters, Or in things too difficult for me. ² Surely I have composed and quieted my soul; ...

(Proverbs 25:2) It is the glory of God to conceal things, but the glory of kings is to search things out.

(Romans 1:18-23; 28-31) ¹⁸ For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, ¹⁹ because that which is known about God is evident within them; for God made it evident to them. ²⁰ For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood through what has been made, so that they are without excuse. ²¹ For even though they knew God, they did not honor Him as God or give thanks, but they became futile in their speculations, and their foolish heart was darkened. ²² Professing to be wise, they became fools, ²³ and exchanged the glory of the incorruptible God for an image in the form of corruptible man and of birds and four-footed animals and crawling creatures. ... ²⁸ And just as they did not see fit to acknowledge God any longer, God gave them over to a depraved mind, to do those things which are not proper, ²⁹ being filled with all unrighteousness ...

(Luke 11:23) He who is not with Me is against Me; and he who does not gather with Me, scatters. (Matt. 12:30)

IV. Creationism vs. Scientism: A Baker's Dozen of Definitions (13)

1. "...ism" Defined: An integrated system of beliefs (religious, political, etc.) founded on presupposed World View, that has been built on axioms, postulates & paradigms.
2. Axiom: (See Corresponding "Vocabulary List.")
3. Postulate: (See Corresponding "Vocabulary List.")
4. World View: (See Corresponding "Vocabulary List.")
5. Epistemology: (See Corresponding "Vocabulary List.")
6. Paradigm: (See Corresponding "Vocabulary List.")
7. Presuppose: (1) to assume beforehand; (2) to require or imply as an antecedent condition
8. Presuppositionalism (Presuppositional Theology or Apologetics): An epistemological concept that maintains that "isms" or "systems of beliefs" are based on axioms or postulates, which assume facts not in evidence and beyond reasonable or scientific proof. Presuppositionalists assert that fallen man is willfully or culpably blind on axiomatic levels that distort their entire perception of reality. (Discuss: My testimony re: "leaps of doubt" & the non-existence of God & "the Burden of Proof.")
9. Evidence: Historical or Legal Proof; Scientific Proof; Reason or Logic; Spiritual Proof.
10. Leap of Doubt: the tendency of fallen humanity to construct "Religious" World Views based on assuming "facts not in evidence" and not verifiable by reason or science. In a Biblical assessment, those taking such leaps of doubts are extremely highly motivated to do so. In short, to not trust in God is to inevitably trust in some form of the creation and ultimately ourselves. (Hubris)
11. Higher Criticism: Theories advanced by Julius Wellhausen that undermined the veracity or reliability of Scripture based on anti-Biblical Presuppositions. (See: The Hoax of Higher Criticism by Gary North.)
12. Scientism: An assumed belief that the paradigms, axioms, postulates and methodologies of the contemporary or present scientific community are nearly always correct and bordering on infallible. This usually includes: A lack knowledge of scientific history, especially of the major historical paradigm shifts among the scientific community of various ages; materialism (or anti-supernaturalism) held axiomatically and thus, the corresponding concept of uniformitarianism. It also includes the hubristic notion that anyone questioning modern science is stupid; irrational, reactionary and immoral. It is generally a very narrow-minded and intolerant ideology. (As evidenced by modern Statism.)
13. Uniformitarianism: An pseudo-scientific postulate, held by the vast majority of philosophically materialist modern scientist, that leaps to the unprovable circular conclusion that all present scientific processes have always worked exactly the same. (Contrast Sir Isaac Newton)

IV. Upcoming: Chapter 3J(ff): Major Biblical Themes Continued: Evolutionary Fallacies & Leaps of Doubt
Including: Materialism; Uniformitarianism; Spontaneous Generation; Billions of Years, Species Change, Etc.



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