BEYOND THE “EvoLUTION” VS. “CreATION” DEBATE

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THE PROBLEM

DICHOTOMY

“EvoLUTION”
“CreATION”

“SCIENCE”
“RELIGION”

NO GOD
GOD

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

TOWARD A SOLUTION

A. Terms & Definitions

TELEOLOGY

Teleology
Belief the world has plan & purpose

Dysteleology
Belief the world has NO plan & purpose

DYSTELEOLOGY

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

Creation
Belief that the world is the product of the Creator

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

1. Spiritual Truths (Genesis 1)
God created the world
The creation is very good
Humans are created in the Image of God

2. Ancient Science (3-Tier Universe)

HIGHLIGHTS

Deut 28:15  Is 40:22
Ps 104:2-3, 13, Amos 9:6

3. Ancient Poetry: Parallel Panels (Genesis 1)

FORMING

Day 1
Separate Light from Darkness

Day 2
Separate Waters Above & Waters Below

Day 3
Separate Water & Land

FILLING

Day 4
Fill with Sun & Moon

Day 5
Fill with Birds & Fishes

Day 6
Fill with Land Animals & Humans

CONCLUSIONS

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

FALSE DICHOTOMY
## Views on the Origin of the Universe & Living Organisms

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Young Earth Creation</th>
<th>Progressive Creation</th>
<th>Evolutionary Creation</th>
<th>Deistic Evolution</th>
<th>Dysteleological Evolution</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Teleology</strong></td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Intelligent Design</strong></td>
<td>Yes Points to a Designer</td>
<td>Yes Points to a Designer</td>
<td>Yes Points to a Designer</td>
<td>Yes Points to a Designer</td>
<td>No Design a delusion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Age of the Universe</strong></td>
<td>Young 6000 yrs</td>
<td>Old 14 billion yrs</td>
<td>Old 14 billion yrs</td>
<td>Old 14 billion yrs</td>
<td>Old 14 billion yrs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Evolution of Living Organisms</strong></td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>God’s Activity in the Origin of the Universe &amp; Living Organisms</strong></td>
<td>Yes Miraculous events over 6 days</td>
<td>Yes 1. Miraculous events for life over billions of yrs 2. God uses natural processes for stars, planets, etc</td>
<td>Yes God uses natural processes</td>
<td>Yes God uses natural processes</td>
<td>No Blind chance &amp; natural processes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>God’s Activity in the Lives of Men &amp; Women</strong></td>
<td>Yes Personal God</td>
<td>Yes Personal God</td>
<td>Yes Personal God</td>
<td>No Impersonal God</td>
<td>No No God</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Interpretation of Genesis 1</strong></td>
<td>Strict literalism Creation days = 24 hrs</td>
<td>General literalism Creation days = millions of yrs</td>
<td>1. Spiritual Truths 2. Ancient science 3. Ancient poetry</td>
<td>Irrelevant myth</td>
<td>Irrelevant myth</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Coursera Open Online Course
**Science & Religion 101**
9 Hours of Lectures

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

### Web Page

### Lectures
- Sci-Rel lectures & handouts, including this lecture
- High school level Sci-Rel lectures & handouts

### Papers
- Evolutionary Creation, The Bible & Ancient Science
- Intelligent Design, Religious Beliefs of Galileo
- Religious Beliefs of Charles Darwin
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