

## INTRODUCTION

Slide 2

## I. THE PROBLEM: SCIENCE &amp; RELIGION WARFARE

S3

MAGNIFIES:

S4

in the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century**Thomas Henry Huxley** (aka “Darwin’s Bulldog”)Review of Darwin’s *Origin of Species* (1859):

1. “Extinguished theologians lie about the cradle of every science as the strangled snakes beside that of Hercules; and history records that whenever **science** and **orthodoxy** [religion] have been fairly opposed, the latter has been forced to retire from the lists, bleeding and crushed if not annihilated; scotched, if not slain.”

T.H. Huxley, “*Origin of Species*” *Westminster Review* 17 (1860), 556 S7PRODUCES:

S8 Handouts 1

*Science vs. Religion Dichotomy***Dichotomy** Greek *dicha*: in two *temnō*: to cut

DEF: division of an issue into only TWO simple positions

thinking about issues in ‘black-and-white’ &amp; ‘either/or’ terms

Problem:

- ☛ forces people into choosing between one of two positions

Therefore:

you cannot be both a scientist & a religious believerDEVELOPS:

S9 H1

into the *Evolution vs. Creation Debate* (aka “Origins Dichotomy”)

Problem:

- ☛ forces people into choosing between only TWO positions:

**EITHER** (1) “Evolution”**OR** (2) “Creation”

Therefore:

You cannot be both an evolutionist & a believer in a Creator

## 1. Common Understanding of “Science” &amp; “Evolution”

S10

**Julian Huxley**

S11

leading evolutionary biologist

Centennial celebration of Darwin’s *Origin of Species* in 1959:

2. “In the evolutionary pattern of thought there is no longer either need or room for the supernatural. **The earth was not created; it evolved.** So did all the animals and plants that inhabit it, including our human selves, mind and soul as well as brain and body.

**So did religion ...**

S13

Evolutionary man can no longer take refuge from his loneliness in the arms of a S14

divinized father figure **whom he has himself created** [cf. Gen 1:26-27], nor escape S15from the **responsibility of making decisions** by sheltering under the umbrella of

Divine Authority ...

The evolutionary vision is enabling us to discern, however incompletely, the S16-17

lineaments of the **new religion** that we can be sure will arise to serve the needs of the coming era.”

J. Huxley, “The Evolutionary Vision” in Sol Tax and Charles Callender, eds.  
*Evolution after Darwin: The University of Chicago Centennial*  
 (Chicago, IL: University Press, 1960), 252-253, 260

COMMENTS:

S2

- evolution vs. creation dichotomy
- COMMON understanding of “science” → “Godless”  
“evolution” → “Godless”

S3 H1

**Major Theme of this course:**

Challenge COMMON terms/definitions & replace with ACADEMIC terminology

More accurately, Huxley’s position is:

S4-5 H1

**Scientism**

DEF: conflation of (1) science (2) secular [non-religious] philosophy (3) humanist ethics

**Conflation** Latin *con*: together *flare*: to blow

DEF: careless collapsing & co-mingling of distinct ideas into ONE undifferentiated concept

**Humanist Ethics**

DEF: ethical position in which humans ALONE determine morals & values, not God as traditionally believed

- ☛ ethics often tied to debates about origins

**2. Common Understanding of “Religion” & “Creation”**

S6

**Henry Morris**

S7

creation scientist & founder of the Institute for Creation Research (aka Young Earth Creation)

Creation Science: claims that creation in 6 days 6000 yrs ago can be proven scientifically

3. “After all, there are only **two** basic worldviews—the God-centred worldview and the man-centred worldview, **creation** or **evolution** ...” S8

There is **no evidence** whatever [for the] evolution of one kind of organism into a more complex organism ... There are **no proven scientific evidences** that the earth is old ... Divine revelation from the Creator of the world [states] that He did it all in six days several thousand years ago ... S9

**The Bible is a book of science!** ... The Bible does contain all the basic principles upon which **true** science [i.e., Creation Science] is built. S10

If there is really a great personal Creator behind the origin and meaning of all things, then we urgently need to know Him and to **order our lives** according to His will, as revealed in His inspired Word ... S11

**Satan himself is the originator of the concept of evolution.**” S12

H. Morris, “Foreword” in John D. Morris, *The Young Earth* (Colorado Springs, CO: Creation-Life Pub, 1994), 4-5; *Many Infallible Proofs* (San Diego, CA: C-LP, 1980), 229; *Troubled Waters of Evolution* (San Diego, CA: C-LP, 1982), 75

COMMENTS:

S13 H1

- evolution vs. creation dichotomy
- COMMON understanding of “religion” → Bible reveals science & origins  
“creation” → God created in 6 days 6000 yrs ago

More accurately, using ACADEMIC terms/definitions, Morris’ position is:

S14 H1

**Fundamentalism**

DEF: conflation of (1) Christianity (2) origins in 6 days (3) biblical ethics

**Biblical Ethics**

DEF: only God determines morals & values, and these are revealed in the Bible

QUESTIONS:

- Is the relationship between science & religion this simple?
- Are we forced to choose between only TWO positions:  
**EITHER** (1) “science” & “evolution”  
**OR** (2) “religion” & “creation”

**II. LAMOUREUX’S POSITION**

S3

**First**, I am a thoroughly committed & unapologetic evangelical theologian trained to the PhD level S4

I am a **born-again Christian**

I believe the Bible is the Holy Spirit inspired **Word of God**

I believe in **miracles** & I have experienced them

I believe in **Intelligent Design** (traditionally defined)

**Second**, I am a thoroughly committed & unapologetic evolutionary biologist trained to the PhD level S5

I find that the evidence for biological evolution is **OVERWHELMING**

I have yet to see evidence that **falsifies** the theory of evolution

I recognize the **explanatory power** of evolutionary theory

☛ Biology **makes sense** in the light of evolution S6

**III. TOWARD A SOLUTION: THE NEW SCIENCE-RELIGION DIALOGUE**

S7

scholarship that arose during the 1990s

**1. Scientific Community**

S8

- Religious Beliefs of Scientists S9

repeated James Leuba’s 1916 survey

4. “I believe in a God in intellectual and affective communication with humankind, S10-11

i.e. a God to whom one may pray in expectation of receiving an answer. By “answer”

I mean more than the subjective psychological effect of prayer.”

Edward Larson & Larry Witham, “Scientists Are Still Keeping the Faith”  
 386 *Nature* (3 Apr 1997), 436

Results: **39%** believe in miracles → personal God S12

1916 Survey: **42%** S13

Leuba predicted 20<sup>th</sup> century secularization would destroy belief in God

COMMENTS: S14

is this **proof** for God’s existence? NO

☛ but this is serious data because these scientists are serious thinkers

**1<sup>st</sup> Class Survey** → Do you believe in miracles?

- Contribution to Science-Religion Dialogue S15-16

5. “Both the **National Academy of Sciences** and the **American Association for the** S17

**Advancement of Science** have launched projects to promote a dialogue between science and religion. New institutions aimed at bridging the gap have been formed, including the Chicago Center for Religion and Science, and the Center for Theology and Natural Sciences in Berkeley, California. Universities such as Cambridge and Princeton also have established professorships or lectureships on the **reconciliation** of the two camps.”

Gregg Easterbrook, “Science and God: A Warming Trend?”  
 277 *Science* (15 Aug 1997), 890

COMMENTS:

S18-19 H1

NAS & AAAS → two of the most important scientific organizations in the world  
 add to the list of professorships:

Oxford, Harvard, Toronto ... St Joseph’s College University of Alberta!

## 2. Religious Community

S2

## • Roman Catholic: Pope John Paul II

S3

6. “New knowledge leads to the recognition of the theory of **evolution as more than**

**a hypothesis** ... Sacred scripture wishes simply to declare that the world was created S4

by God, and in order to teach this truth it expresses itself in the terms of **the cosmology**

[science] **in use at the time of the writer** ... ‘The Bible does not wish to teach how

heaven was made, but how one goes to heaven’” [aphorism inspired by Galileo].” S5

Pope John Paul II, “Message to Pontifical Academy of Sciences on Evolution,” *Origins: CNS Documentary Service* 26 (Nov 1996), 415; “Scripture and Science: The Path of Scientific Discovery,” *Origins* 11 (15 Oct 1981), 279

COMMENTS:

S6

- NO problem with evolution
- Bible is NOT a book of science
- Bible uses the science-of-the-day

☛ **ANCIENT SCIENCE****Major Theme of this course**

## • Evangelical Protestant: Billy Graham

S7

7. “I don’t think that there’s any conflict at all between science today and the Scriptures. S8

I think **we have misinterpreted the Scriptures** many times and we’ve tried to make

the Scriptures say things that they **weren’t meant to say**, and I think we have made a

**mistake** by thinking the Bible is a scientific book. **The Bible is not a book of science.** S9

The Bible is a book of redemption ...

And of course, I accept the Creation story. I believe that God did create the universe. S10

I believe He 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 S11

difference as to what man is and man’s **relationship** to God.”

David Frost, *Billy Graham: Personal Thoughts of a Public Man. 30 Years of Conversations with David Frost* (Colorado Springs, CO: Chariot Victor, 1997), 73-74

COMMENTS:

S12-13

- Bible is NOT a book of science
- Openness to evolution is not often heard in evangelical protestant churches
- ☛ but this is slowly starting to change More anon

## 3. Summary

S14-15 H1

Science & Religion Warfare is being challenged by prominent leaders within both the scientific community & the religious community

## IV. CRITICISM OF THE NEW SCIENCE-RELIGION DIALOGUE

S16

**Richard Dawkins**

S17

Most important atheist in the world today

8. “Are science and religion converging? No ... Convergence? Only when it suits.

To an **honest** judge, the alleged marriage between religion and science is a

shallow, empty, spin-doctored sham.”

R. Dawkins, “Snake Oil & Holy Water: Illogical Thinking Is the Only Thing Joining Science & Religion Together” *Forbes ASAP* (4 Oct 1999), 235, 237

COMMENTS:

Note the subtitle:

**“Illogical Thinking** is the Only Thing Joining Science & Religion Together”

☛ as you proceed through this course, ask yourself, “Is this true?”

**V. CONCLUSION**

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The central question in this course: How do YOU relate Science & Religion?

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SOME POSSIBLE RELATIONSHIPS:**1. Scientism:** Science Dictates to Religion

S5

EG Julian Huxley

evolution explains away religion & God

**2. Fundamentalism:** Religion Dictates to Science

S6

EG Henry Morris

Bible reveals “**true science**” → the world was created in 6 days 6000 years ago

**3. Compartmentalization:** Science & Religion Do Not Communicate

S7

EG common in academic circles prior to 1990s

☛ many students entering this course

**4. The Two Divine Books Relationship:** Science & Religion Complement Each Other

S8

EG Pope John Paul II & Billy Graham

**Sir Francis Bacon**

S9

a founding member of modern science in the early 17<sup>th</sup> century

9. “To conclude, therefore, let no man out of a weak conceit of sobriety, or an ill-applied moderation, think or maintain, that a man can search too far or be too well studied in the **Book of God’s Words**, or in the **Book of God’s Works**; divinity [ie, theology] or [natural] philosophy [ie, science]; but rather let men endeavour an endless progress or proficiency in both.”

*Advancement of Learning* (1605) 1.1.3

COMMENTS:

S10

- classic time-honoured relationship between Science & Religion:

**(1) Book of God’s Words**

Bible → Religion → studied by theologians

**(2) Book of God’s Works**

Nature → Science → studied by scientists

- Bible & Nature are GIFTS from God → they enhance & enrich each other  
use both Books to construct YOUR personal worldview

S11

- Bible & Nature are used for loving God with our mind

S12

**Jesus**

10. “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and **with all your mind**. This is the first and greatest commandment.”

Matt 22:37-38

☛ many students at the end of this course

- NOT just a one-way street from professor to students!  
students have impacted me profoundly in this class

S13

I dedicated my book *Evolutionary Creation* (2008) to my Science & Religion students between 1997 & 2007:

“They taught me the meaning of loving God  
**faithfully & fearlessly** with our mind”