

Death and the Bible

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Introduction

Death is an exceedingly hostile reality for every living organism. But is death just a part of life - or is it *an imposed evil*? If death is simply a natural part of life, then it is an impersonal, random event with no hostile intent. It is just there. The fact it is hostile to an individual is just chance effect. On the other hand, if death is *an imposed evil*, then it is *a created thing* with reasons for its existence. There are two competing systems on the study of, *and belief* about, death - Naturalism and Theism. In this work, I am narrowing Theism to the six day Creation Account of the Bible.

Interestingly, Humanism is left out of this debate. It contributes nothing to either camp. It is outside the hard sciences of atheistic evolution (Naturalism) and it is clearly outside a six day Biblical Creationism. Humanism is the weakest form of human thought and valuation. Here is one example.

Before addressing the Biblical account on death, I have decided to first present Naturalism's position. You may initially think my five points against the theory of evolution have nothing to do with the subject of death. After all, how does a discussion about eternal matter, or spontaneous generation, or a hostile-to-life environment, or metamorphosis, or the Bombardier Beetle - relate to death? Well, if one begins to doubt the veracity of the evolutionary theory *in places*, then it's possible, one might also reconsider the accuracy of its base assumption - *that death has always been life's constant companion*. Evolution *assumes* death is a constant and has been here since the first living matter arose. It is so fundamentally assumed that I don't know of a single discussion on death's origins among evolutionists. Life's origins, yes ... but death's origins, never. It is so assumed that questions about *death's beginnings* never even enters these minds. Meanwhile, the theory that *is* presented is fraught with many glaring, fundamental problems. By exposing just five problems here, it is my hope is that readers will then be willing to consider the Biblical alternative position about death (and the Creation Account itself) more carefully - more open-mindedly. Isn't it interesting I have found it necessary to ask Naturalists (and Humanists) to be open-minded when Biblical Theists as the ones characterized as close-minded?

Following that discussion, we will then turn our attention to the Biblical record. Most assertions on this subject are extremely simple - in stark black and white words. The Bible addresses death's origin, its reason for being, its Handler, and its fate.

The Two Competing Systems

Biblical Creationism and all evolutionary systems (including theistic ones like the Age-Day theory) are at great odds on the subject of death. In fact, on this subject, the two systems could not be more diametrically opposed. The separation is as dramatic as it is non negotiable. For starters, the Bible declares death was *imposed* upon man. It is *unnatural*. Evolutionists believe, as just stated, death is *natural* – and truly is *a bedrock necessity* of its theory. Evolution, in all its sects (including theistic compromises), is built upon death. Let me take a moment to explain that assertion.

While evolution is built upon several pillars of shared beliefs, one of the most fundamental is the teaching of profitable mutations causing change. Some profess incrementalism, others opt for great mutation jumps. Regardless of that, these favorable mutations give rise to more ecologically fit organisms. They believe this process has been repeated zillions upon zillions of times. This process *requires* death. Parent organisms *must die*. What would happen if nothing ever died? Without mortality, the planet would long ago have been inundated with living creatures - the bulk of them being the lesser

developed species. Thus, *death is cardinal to the system* - present from the beginning. That is why its origin is not even a thought. Without death, the theory of evolution immediately dies. What a system!

Biblical Creationism is at the opposite end of the spectrum. Death is an invader to this creation - with a limited "*life span*." It is alien. Death is not to be accepted and embraced. While its reality is acknowledged, it is *rejected* as the ultimate ruler.

As you are beginning to see, the subject of death forms a very sharp dividing line between Biblical Creationism and all evolutionary theories. But some, like many of my seminary professors, have a foot in both camps. They have taken an oily eraser to this extremely bright line (death) and smudged that line. They are what I call, "*hybridists*." You will soon see this is extreme error.

One of my goals is to *reestablish* this bright line. I compare this effort to an incident I had in my teen years. When I was 17, my foot was crushed in a hydraulic lift on the back of a tractor. The blood supply was severed to most of my big toe. Dried gangrene ensued to the flesh which had lost its blood supply. Over the next few weeks, the doctors had to wait for a clear "*line of demarcation*" before the dead flesh could be cut away. When you finish this Ebook, you will either be part of what I consider the dead flesh of evolutionary belief, or else you will be found with life-giving blood flowing to you. There will be no straddling of that line. (What a bold assertion). So, let's now see where things end up.

A Closer at the Evolutionary Theory

While I believe all longevity models, and their accompanying evolutionary theories, have many glaring problems, here are just five.

1. Matter is Eternal

Everything we see, know, or experience has a genesis of some kind. There is a previous state *to every thing we observe*. But in the search for origins, evolutionists do a curious process reversal as they get back to "*the beginning*." "*Matter*," says the evolutionist, "***did not come from anything. It has no origins. It is eternal.***" Everything else comes from something *except* matter. This is *the lone exception* to their otherwise universally held *belief* that everything we see, know, or experience, had a precursor. Evolutionists halt their quest for origins *at eternal matter* - maybe some incredibly dense blot at the center of a Big Bang. Origins begin with matter ... that has *no* origin. This is a position of faith.

Biblical Creationists believe there was a time matter **did not exist**. It is *not* eternal. God spoke it into existence. He made it out of nothing. "*I, the Lord, am the maker of all things, stretching out the heavens by Myself, and spreading out the earth all alone ...*" (Isa 44:24). "*All things*" include matter. Original matter, in whatever form it first appeared, was created by *One* who had no beginning. **God** is eternal - not matter. "*By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared (formed) by the word (rhema) of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things which are visible*" (Heb 11:3). "*In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth*" (Gen 1:1). The faith of the Biblical Creationist simply takes one step past where the faith of the evolutionist halts. The Creationist's faith is based upon Bible assertions while the evolutionist's faith rests on a *necessary violation* of a basic tenet of their naturalistic system.

So, the choice is between matter being eternal, or God being eternal. Neither choice yields to logic. For anything (or Anyone) to eternally *just be there* - is truly incomprehensible. Whether matter, or God, for something, or Someone, to have no beginning - *to just be there* - to me, that is terrifying. What if there are other things "*just there*" we haven't been exposed to yet? Like a billion decibel sound or something? But I must admit, to adhere to a faith espousing *inorganic material* as eternal is not as terrifying as is the faith of the Biblical Creationist. That faith espouses *a living, moral Being* who knows everything (Isa 40:13,14,28), sees everything (Pr 15:3), and is a God "*who cannot lie*" (Tit 1:2).

“Before Me, there was no God formed, and there will be none after Me I am God. Even from eternity, I am He I am the first and the last, and there is no God besides Me Is there any God besides Me, or is there any other Rock? I know of none” (Isa 43:10b,12b, 13a, and Isa 44:8b. I must say, that last phrase, *“I know of none”* is haunting). To maintain, as the Bible does, that an intelligent *“Being”* created all this - and **He** is the eternal one - is unfathomable. But to simply accept that matter is eternal? That too is unfathomable. Something, or Someone, absent of origin, is incomprehensible. But at least the faith of the Biblical Creationist remains consistent with its system of faith while the evolutionist must abandon their entire precursor process system to adhere to their faith on origins.

2. Spontaneous Generation

Before considering the rise of organic life from inorganic elements, it seems reasonable to take a moment to discuss the existence of *the inorganic environment* that has presented the possibility of such an event. Most evolutionists I have been around gloss over or completely skip speaking of this mandatory, intermediate, and critical step before life on this globe could ever arise.

The reality of this planet’s position and its chemical constitution is absolutely astounding. While there is some tolerance for life to exist in varied chemical and environmental conditions, the windows are extremely narrow when placed upon a continuum showing the extremes. For example, the earth’s distance *from the right kind of sun* is absolutely critical. And if the earth had *just a bit* of an elliptical orbit, even though it possessed all the correct elements for life to spontaneously arise, there would still be no life. At one point of the ellipse, the water planet would be *the boiling-water* planet. Then, a little later in the year, the water planet would be *the block-of-ice* planet. And this favorable orbit needed to be in place for ... the last four billion years or so? Then consider our atmosphere. It’s composition, density, and temperatures nurture life - while many of our neighboring planets are surrounded by a toxic brew. Our skies even protect us from a life-giving sun that also produces lethal radiation. When considering this planet’s mass and the gravitational pull, these had to be within tolerable limits for life to be possible (Did you know if Saturn was set on a huge lake of water it would float like a cork? In the same lake, the earth would sink like the rock it is.). Now, when you get to the surface of the earth, all the correct *elements* had to be here too for life to be possible. If the wrong elements were here (like only metals), then even the most ideal environment would still be an inorganic world. But those elements must also be in correct concentrations. For example, while it is clear that some creatures thrive in salt water, once the salt reaches a certain level, life ceases. Witness, the Dead Sea. Also, creatures can exist in varying pressure ranges, but once those get too high or too low, life ceases.

The physical requisite for an environment to be capable of birthing life is astonishing. The proper elements, and resultant compounds, had to *“just be here”* along with the proper cosmic environment if life was going to be able to spontaneously arise. The point? This entire planet is an exceedingly delicate and special place from a physical standpoint. It is the rarest of jewels. To believe this physical environment *“just happened”* takes a great faith. Indeed, that belief requires a greater faith than the Biblical Creationist needs for attributing this environment to the activity of God. That is much easier to believe. *And this is before the mystery of inorganic elements **giving birth** to organic life forms is even considered!* And if you believe this environment to be *“common,”* then find me another one. Just one. I realize you are searching for the tiniest of needles in a huge haystack, as there are billions of stars, but the fact you are searching for a needle is proof in itself the earth is not *“common.”*

I believe *scientifically sound* environmentalists are rightly alarmed about the damage we exact upon our planet. We do not understand its tolerance levels, and at what point any given component might be pushed too far causing system's wide trouble. Before I became a Christian, man’s abuse of our planet weighed very heavily on me. I had decided to read the Bible, and in my journey, I came across a

couple of passages that deeply affected me. I wasn't a Christian yet, but God used these passages to make me want to read more. "*And the nations were enraged, and Thy wrath came, and the time came for the dead to be judged ... and to destroy those who destroy the earth*" (Rev 11:18). When I read this, I thought, "*If He created this place, doesn't it make sense He would be angry with those who destroy it?*" "*'Vengeance is mine; I will repay,' saith the Lord*" (Ro 12:19). I then thought, "*Son, you do not need to worry about this anymore. God Himself will deal with those who destroy His creation.*" A tremendous burden was lifted from my shoulders at that moment. On the heels of that insight, I read God's command to Moses about stone altars. "*And if you make an altar of stone for Me, you shall not build it of cut stones, for if you wield your tool on it, **you will profane (pollute) it***" (Ex 20:25). The stones were just fine the way He made them. While I favor ethical and purposeful experimentation, investigation, and invention, it must be conceded that our hands pollute much of what we touch.

But even if we assume our inorganic environment did arise by accident, the evolutionist is still faced with a Herculean task to explain. And here it is. How can nonliving elements give rise to living organisms? Or, how can inorganics *give birth* to organics? But the question is more complex than this. For starters, *none* of the elements that make up our body are alive. Carbon is not alive. Iron is not alive. Calcium is not alive. Arsenic is not alive. Lead is not alive. None of the other 23 elements which compose us are alive. In fact, you can't even say they are dead. They are *inorganic*. Life is *absolutely absent* from each and every element in the known universe. So, how are organics alive? No element of living tissue *even hints* at possessing any of "*the stuff*" we call, "*life*." The importance and gravity of these questions and observations cannot be overemphasized. As far as I know, all our attempts to make life arise from any combination of nonliving elements, even in carefully controlled and protected environments, have yielded nothing but various inorganic chemical soups. So, herein lies the real problem for the evolutionist. They have always been consistent in their assertion that life *does not spontaneously arise*. All living things came from *previous* life forms. They profess this belief for each present day life form as they trace back four billion years - *until they come face to face with the first living "thing."* It is at this critical moment, *the moment of truth on the origin of life*, the evolutionist makes another stunning reversal - and spontaneous generation is embraced! And this is the *lone exception* to an otherwise universal rule! Wow! "*Life*," says the evolutionist, "*spontaneously arose from nonliving matter - but only with that first living thing.*" Mother earth takes on a literal meaning as inorganic earth gives birth. But, these new births must also have a *fully operational reproductive system* that births organics - not inorganics. Evolutionists are indeed a people great faith - but one built on foundations of belief reversals. Let's continue.

3. A Hostile System of Degeneration

How does life arise in a system that is so hostile to it? Inorganic forces are constantly *attacking* the fragile life that exists on the skin of this globe. Heat, cold, fire, floods - given enough time, some inorganic force will overcome each life-form - unless some life-form kills the other life-form first. That is fragile life attacking other fragile life. But even the inorganics are under constant attack. Everything has a life-span - even stars, like our sun. Its life, like organic matter's life, peaks and is then snuffed out by degenerative forces. Degeneration is king. The universe is a tremendously harsh environment. But against all odds, the evolutionist believes life (though still without adequate origins explanation) arose. Life swims upstream against the propensity of the universe, and "*wins*" for an exceedingly short season before succumbing to lethal degenerative forces. The evolutionist believes life somehow *came up* from this hostile-to-life base. This is another tremendous faith position as the propensity of the observable universe argues against such an occurrence. Even in our current, relatively benevolent-to-life environment on earth, we find no pockets of spontaneous generation as the environment is still

very hostile to life. But at least, on this point, evolutionists have not made some kind of reversal in their science or principle. Their problem is that everything in their sciences speaks against such a possibility. I will soon refer you to a book that looks into the statistical possibilities of even amino acids arising spontaneously - much less a fully functioning living cell with a fully operational reproductive system.

On the other hand, Biblical Creationists believe life was created in a totally benevolent-to-life environment. Life was fully here, and formed, *before degeneracy and death entered the picture*. Death was imposed upon *a benevolent creation* (as well as a bunch of attendant curses), *and pulls life down*. The Creation Account will be examined in some detail shortly. These are two completely different views about life on this planet. The two beliefs could not be more opposite. For the Creationist, life purposely (and purposefully) arose in a benevolent environment, but for the evolutionist, life is a random, doomed, aberrant occurrence. And it somehow arose in the face of fantastically hostile odds.

Let's now turn our attention to some of the life on our planet. These are two red flags - but each of these flags have hundreds ... no, *thousands* ... no, *millions* of attendant red flags.

4. Metamorphosis

Evolutionists, in most of their varied factions, assert evolutionary progression occurs (present tense) by *incremental change* through profitable mutation. But that is just the first step for evolutionary success. It will be of no value if a profitable adaptation arises just to die with the creature it evolved in. That mutant creature must survive into adulthood and also reproduce. But, that is only the second and third step for successful evolutionary progress. What if the new coded mutation is recessive in meiosis reproduction? To assist in genetic success, it would help if the anomaly arose in both sexes of the same species at the same time. But the chances of that, and the two finding each other, reproducing, and having their "*superior offspring*" survive and reproduce, is probably a mathematical impossibility. So, I think we are left with one mutated donor with a dominant gene mutation. But even dominant genes can be lost to future offspring if the parents pass on "*wrong*" combinations. Clearly, the evolutionary faith rests on *the best* of a bunch of bad randomly occurring scenarios. But, for the sake of argument, and to get to my point in this section, let's grant the viability of mutant "*incremental change*" and consider metamorphosis.

As we examine a tomato plant in my garden in early June, two caterpillars are in view. They are slow moving, pudgy, little creatures. Their main defense is very good camouflage and, although my tomato plants would not agree, they are harmless. Their awkwardness and vulnerability combine to make them rather cute. When plucked from the plant, they roll up into a little ball - as if that could really help them. Once they rightly determine I'm not going to eat them, they unroll and start moving their multitudinous stubby little legs in a synchronized wave as they search for my tomato plant. If we leave them there for a day or two, and come back - it is amazing how they have grown! They are obviously *very successful evolutionary creatures* as they have secured a very lucrative ecological niche for themselves on my tomato plant. They are acting, and reacting, in this environment extremely well. In fact, they are getting so fat, we fear they may explode.

But then, one day in the height of the growing season, something very strange occurs. Our two fat caterpillars have disappeared. There is plenty more to eat - so where are they? We then spot some strange "*casings*" hanging close by. As it turns out, our caterpillars have entombed themselves! What is this about? Are they hiding, or creating some kind of shelter, or what? No answer is forthcoming. As the weeks pass, they never come back out, as there is no exit hole anyway. By now, they have surely starved to death, or else fried to death in their coffins. As the summer wanes, our curiosity is overwhelming, so we cut open *one* of the little coffins. To our sorrow, there is no green caterpillar inside. In fact, all we find is a nondescript jelly like substance - a glob of goo where our cute, fat,

evolutionarily successful creature once was. Why this entombment and disintegration? This is a great mystery. Scratching our heads, we depart to our home. In the meantime the other coffin, we left alone.

Sometime later, when passing the remaining tomb ... it moved. Probably the wind. But then it moved again, and this time it clearly is not the wind! Something is alive in that tomb - desperately trying to get out! And if it doesn't get out soon, whatever is in there will surely expire! But how can something *already dead* - die in a tomb? None of this is making any sense. Then it happens - the tomb splits - and a haggard, moist creature starts pulling itself out! After a tremendous struggle, the creature frees itself. It soon dries out into a marvelous creature! But it is *nothing* like our green caterpillar. So, where did it come from? And how did it get in our green caterpillar's tomb? Did some invader get *inside* our caterpillar, force our caterpillar to entomb itself, and then feed on it until it could break itself out of the tomb itself? Questions, questions, questions!

Well, after some time of discovery and analysis, we figure out what has happened - sort of. The caterpillar never did die. It *did* disintegrate, in a manner of speaking, but not with any rotting in view. It changed - it metamorphosed! Here is a *partial* list of what went in that "tomb" and what came out.

The caterpillar had a head and twelve body "rings." The butterfly has three distinct body parts.
The caterpillar had six eye spots. The butterfly has a phenomenally complex compound eye, with as many as 20,000 eyes close together!
The caterpillar had mandibles and chewed plants for food. Plants would have run away from them if they could. But the butterfly cannot chew anything. It sucks nectar and is even a friend to plants. Plants even want to *attract* the butterfly, as it pollinates many of them. The digestive systems of caterpillar and butterfly are radically different.
The caterpillar had all kinds of stubby little legs. The butterfly has six long delicate legs.
Our caterpillar had a bald little head. The butterfly has two antennae, and it turns out these are very sensitive sensory preceptors - possibly even radar capable!
The caterpillar grew very rapidly. The butterfly never grows.
The caterpillar regularly shed its skin. The exoskeleton of the butterfly never changes.
This is just the tip of the iceberg. The differences between these two creatures are enormous and systems wide.
Oh, yeah. One other little observation. The butterfly - can fly! It changed from a slow lumbering creature to a nimble aerial artist. An incremental development?

So, what happened to the *fundamental teaching* of incremental change? What is *incremental* about a creature completely transforming itself into an entirely different creature in a matter of weeks? This makes no sense. *Both* the caterpillar *and* butterfly are successful creatures - acting and reacting extremely well to the environment - though in completely different ecological niches. There is no way these are of the same stock - but they are! So, what could possibly possess the caterpillar to reinvent itself? As a caterpillar, it was doing just fine. All it had to do was learn how to lay eggs. But it decided on another route. At the height of the growing season, with an abounding food supply, our caterpillar abandoned its lush niche and entombed itself. It's as though it said, "*I've had enough of this life of Riley. I'm going to turn myself into a flying marvel and maybe even migrate, rather than living all of life on this tomato plant!*" This whole deal is bazaar. What is going on here? There are all kinds of worms who are happy to be worms, live as worms, and die as worms. What could possibly motivate the caterpillar to leave its successful life and make a wholesale change? *And how could it do it anyway?* If a caterpillar looked up and decided it wanted to be able to fly like a bird - *so what?* Humans have had a great desire to fly, but the best we have been able to do is create machines to do it. Why haven't we at

least *started the process* of growing wings? We obviously *want to fly - and have even gone to the moon* - but none of us even have the hint of a nub of a wing.

Concerning metamorphosis, the evolutionist is befuddled while the Creationist marvels. It is miraculous. It is not natural. You may say this is natural as it occurs "*naturally*" in species all over the globe. But you are actually witnessing a supernatural act. The Creationist is amazed at the creative ability and power of God. Not only can this God mix up inorganic materials and create life, but He can also take *the organic materials* of a vibrant caterpillar, reorganize it, and produce a butterfly. He is a chemist, biologist, geneticist and artist with stupefying ability. With such knowledge, power, ability, and imagination, the Creationist can only wonder what kind of life expressions will be found in the coming eternal state. On the other hand, the evolutionist must jettison the foundational, incremental progression principle when attempting to deal with metamorphosis and begin a desperate grasp for straws. Metamorphosis defies incremental change. But, I do have one more red flag to wave. I want to reference the Bombardier Beetle. Then I am going to challenge you to read a small book. Those confident in the validity of evolution, will not fear the challenge.

5. The Bombardier Beetle - "***But, wait! You can't use that example!***" Well, let's see.

I wish I could say I figured out this Bombardier Beetle thing by myself. But, I didn't. And my evolutionary teachers either hid this material from me, or did not know it themselves. But whatever the case, I was too dull to see the forthcoming material. The same is true of the metamorphosis material above. While I am very familiar with the Bombardier Beetle (or some close cousin) when I first read this material, I was astounded. I cannot do it justice here, but I will present *the main point*.

When I was a boy, I was infatuated with insects. But there was one bug I avoided. My friends and I called them, "*Stink Bugs*." I am pretty sure this was the Bombardier Beetle (or a close cousin). After my first encounter with one, they were always given a wide berth. Well, Duane T. Gish, Ph.D., filled me in on this little guy. Here is the long and short *on the stink* of my "*Stink Bug*."

This is a defensive system. It is composed of *two* separate storage chambers with a different chemical in each one. When threatened, the beetle sends the chemical from each storage chamber into its respective combustion tube. An enzyme is then added to each chemical. These are two different enzymes and cannot be interchanged as they are specific to the chemical in each combustion tube. One enzyme causes an explosion in one tube while the other creates a terribly noxious smelling chemical in the other tube. A "*mysterious inhibitor*" is added to one of the chemicals which prevents oxidization of the other chemical when the two chemicals are mixed (I think I got that straight. Get the book and see if I did). Both tubes open at the same time and an exploding gas is jettisoned under great pressure - at a temperature of up to 212 degrees Fahrenheit - the boiling point of water! For this process to work, tremendously complex and perfectly timed muscular activity is required. This is phenomenal. The result? Repulsed is any predator ... or some inquisitive boy. The point of this recital is to lead to this quote by Dr. Gish. Concerning this highly complicated and intricate defense mechanism, "***everything had to be complete and functioning before anything would be of any use.***" Each part of this complex system is of ***no use*** until *every part of it is developed and working together* - with exact timing! No evolutionary principle can explain how such a system could be developed *by increments*. Intermediate beetles would have had to mutate, and then retain, ***parts*** of a system that gave them no advantage to any contemporaries. Something would have to be guiding the beetles in this progression - *when no advantage would be seen until the entire system came on line!*

Some pseudo-evolutionists have made the argument that the use of the Bombardier Beetle is a flawed example for refuting evolution. They point to Dr. Gish's *side comment* that intermediate beetles might explode if the ingredients came together incorrectly. Those who make this contention have

missed the point entirely. The defense mechanism system of the Bombardier Beetle defies evolution's bedrock assumption of incremental development. Darwin *himself* would make that case. Before he died, he was already questioning some of his own speculations. For one, he wondered why we didn't have intermediate species around us but he also knew that if we discovered anatomical systems that could not have developed incrementally, his evolutionary theory would be debunked. Enter the Bombardier Beetle. That is all Darwin would have needed to learn - and he would have let his theory crumble back to the dust from whence it came. From what I have read of Darwin, he probably was a genuine naturalistic scientist, and with additional information, he would have gone where the facts led him. Honest anatomical studies on any species expose systems that defy incremental development. In one species, a defense mechanism, in another, some component of the reproductive cycle, while in another species a radar capacity ... on and on infinitely. The exceedingly complex defense mechanism possessed by this inch long, insignificant little Stink Bug is but the top snowflake on top of an iceberg.

The Power of Repetition - For Good and For Bad

When I took my first year of New Testament Greek, my instructor often said, "*Repetition is the mother of learning.*" Repetition can be very good - or very bad. Unfortunately, error that is stated long enough, is often accepted as truth. For example, millions of people *are convinced* cold weather causes colds. They have even been successful in naming the two hundred plus viruses as - cold viruses. As another example, many governments completely control all media as they fully understand the power of repeating their message without competition. This is what has occurred with evolution. Contrary voices have been amazingly marginalized. But, as scientific marvels have become more evident in all the disciplines, many honest evolutionary scientists have come to an inescapable conclusion - the theory is dead. Yet, most people espousing the theory (not scientists) have no idea there are young earth Creation scientists in all scientific research fields - many of them being deserters from evolutionary folds. Do you know anything *firsthand* of their research, deductions, and theories? If you are confident in the accuracy of your own positions, you will not be afraid to examine their materials. In fact, if you find *they* are in error, you will be fortified in the veracity of your own position(s). Personally, I *want* contrary views forwarded. It makes me stronger, and can at times, even cause modification. You see, I have a basic philosophy. I believe I have nothing to fear *from truth* in any area. I hope you adopt the same mindset. Before moving to the Creationist's faith, let's summarize the demise of evolution.

Evolution's Demise

At critical points, evolutionists abandon principles they otherwise hold as universal constants. So, its demise is partly due to self inflicted wounds. But there is not just one arrow through the heart - there are many. Arrow one: Everything comes from something - except for matter itself. Arrow two: Spontaneous generation is rejected except for the origin of life itself. Arrow three: It isn't enough that it spontaneously arose, but it had to have *a fully operational reproductive system!* Then, life, which is exceedingly complex and delicate, must successfully organize in a hostile system ruled by inorganics - which are *themselves* ruled by degenerative forces. So rare living matter has both of these thousand-pound gorillas pounding on it at all times. We are at arrow four at least. Then, incremental profitable adaptation is attacked by a butterfly! And adding insult to injury, the Bombardier Beetle comes along and sprays in the investigative evolutionist's face. What an assault! Arrows fly from all directions. Yet many an evolutionist still clings to his/her beliefs in the face of these faith-killing evidences. *Theories* are easily released when contrary factual materials arise. But *faith positions* are stubborn things. This is because the believer is *emotionally vested*. Faithfulness can be a strength, unless the cause is fatally

flawed. One is then in a blind faith.

But there are other reasons evolution is dead. The mathematical possibility of amino acids randomly lining up to create a functioning protein, or the development of beneficial DNA molecules occurring by chance - is probably a statistical impossibility. I suspect computer analysis in this vein will not be friendly to the theory.

And what about all the necessary naturally occurring beneficial mutations for this theory's viability? They should be in evidence in various species all around us. But where are they? Mutations seem to be universally *detrimental* to the creature that develops them. Often they are attacked by those of the norm, ostracized, killed - or both. Who knows, we may find homosexuality is a mutation that not only leads to a dead end of that creature's line, but also creates *a natural repulsion* by those in the norm of the species. Homophobia, hate crimes, or homicide, may be a natural instinct of the heterosexual human animal. For a fuller discussion on this point, read, "*Evolution and Homosexuality*." For this beneficial mutation theory to realistically work out, good ones *must be everywhere* so that some may make it into the reproductive cycle. Honestly an evolutionist puts his/her faith in the best of all possible scenarios when present day, objective observation just does not support that! Arrows fly from all quarters and are sticking out of the theory everywhere.

Concerning evolution as a belief system, when do errant ones cross the line and become generally regarded as a fairy tale? The Greek gods and goddesses crossed that line at some point. I wonder when evolution will be recognized in the same manner? One of my first college courses was, "*Introduction to Physical Anthropology*." I believed in evolution. I really did. I loved it. But now I see it as fairy tale. Maybe it is just one conversion at a time. But here is the real bottom line on evolution's fate. Error, in any realm, can only survive for a season. Eventually, it is exposed, and falls. Many believed the earth was flat. Many believed if man went a certain speed, he would explode. These beliefs had a season, but then went the way of the Greek gods.

I must confess, there are times I wonder why I have made the effort to write this Ebook. Today (January 13, 2004), I heard a national news report that made me wonder anew. President Bush just proposed the redirection our space program - to pursue a manned moon station, and then make flights to Mars. A reporter asked a man on the streets of New Orleans what he thought of this proposal. The man thought it was a good idea. He then calmly stated, "*It would be nice to know what they're doing on other planets*." Even more astounding - the reporter did not even flinch. This obviously sounded quite reasoned to his ears. I guess they do not realize that Star Trek, Star Wars, and all of that genre *are fiction*. And these two guys are products of an educational system with trillions of dollars poured into it. I couldn't help but wonder, "*Is there even an audience for what I am writing?*" But, if my efforts profit even one eternal soul, then the labor will have been worth it. So, I write.

The book I promised earlier to refer you to is, "*The Amazing Story of Creation From Science and the Bible*," by Duane T. Gish, Ph.D., Copyright 1990. It is simply, yet skillfully, written. He is *just one* of the Creation scientists had over the years by The Institute for Creation Research, www.icr.org. These credentialed scientists (many having come through evolution belief themselves) are engaged in all areas of scientific inquiry. If you are scientifically wired, they have a whole new world waiting for your intellect. They have extremely compelling theories on fossil creation, dinosaurs, geology and dating, mutations, etc. You will find it interesting and challenging.

For those who are just beginning the journey of questioning evolution's foundational assertions, I must warn you - not all is well in Christian circles. On the subject of origins, there are many longevity model theologies. These are "*hybridists*" referenced earlier who attempt mixing Creationism and evolution. I will address these later. But, if you decide to investigate Creationism, go first to the *Creation Scientists*. Leave the theologians for later ... the genuine pseudo-scientists.

Time to Turn the Corner

Let's turn to the original purpose of this Ebook and examine the Biblical material on death. We must start with the Creation Account. Although I do have various theological academic credentials, all I am is a Bible student. That is all I ever have been, and all I aspire to be. So, all longevity adherents, jump on board! You may find some things worth thinking about.

The Original Creation

The Creation Account is started, and completed, in Genesis 1:1-31. There is a consistent pattern throughout it. Here it is. *"Then God said, ... and God saw that it was **good** (whatever He just made)."* The Hebrew word *"good"* means, *"excellent of its kind."* Other connotations of this word include, *"pleasant, agreeable, pleasing, fair, sweet, well, choice, pure, rich, valuable in estimation, precious, or right."* It is a very positive word of benevolence. But then, when the creation was completed, we find this declaration: *"And God saw all that He had made, and **behold**, it was **very good!**"* *"Behold"* is a demonstrative particle with a conjunction. It is an attention getter - a wake-up call to pay attention as an element of surprise is about to be introduced. *"Reader, wake up! Look at this! Behold!"* Behold what? *"Look at the **finished** creation! It is not just 'good'! It is **very good!**"* It is at this exact point I part company with professing *"believers"* who adhere to some sort of longevity model - some modified version of the evolutionary theory. While there are varied theological hybridists camps (detailed later), they all have one common belief; they do not believe in *a literal rendering of the Creation Account*. It is symbolic at best - mythological at worst. Adam and Eve are not actual people - or if they were, they never appeared in the historical situation of Genesis 1. We will return to these groups later.

In an attempt to engage the Naturalist (theistic or atheistic), let's pick a moment in time to look down on this planet. Let's pick the second when man was no longer a primeval animal operating solely by instinct. He just developed a metaphysical consciousness - morals, aesthetics, etc. - the modern Homo sapiens. Let's call this moment, *"the dawn of The Age of Reason."* So, at that split second, what kind of world does the Biblical Creationist see and what does the theistic, or atheistic, evolutionist see?

When God announces the finished creation is *"exceedingly good"* (Gen 1:31), the Biblical Creationist sees a pristine creation *not yet subject to the curses of God*. Death is absent. Disease is absent. Bloodshed is absent. Injury is absent. Life teems in an environment created by, and preserved by, God. Every living thing is *"enjoying"* the life the Creator has given it. When Adam first opened his eyes, the creation was an *extremely pleasant place*. Let's now look on this earth, at that same moment, with the eyes of one adhering to some longevity model.

On the Atlantic, a category five hurricane may be slamming into the North American Continent. Or in the Pacific, a tremendous tidal wave is bearing down on some hapless islands following a huge earthquake. Elsewhere, tornadoes are touching down, and killer lightning strikes are occurring in other locales. Some of those spawn horrendous forest fires. Blizzards are raging on the poles while blistering sandstorms are occurring in some desert region. A lethal volcano is also spotted on the globe. All these scenes claim the lives of thousands and thousands of creatures. Some are killed instantly, while others are wounded and then fall prey to opportunistic predators - like slow killing bacterium.

But in other seemingly peaceful areas, there are other scenes. The cool night air is rent by the screams of a mother dying in childbirth. In other places, children stray from the cave and are devoured by wild beasts. And all over the globe, animals are ripping other animals to shreds, with the prey going down fighting for life. Yes, this world is populated with rotting carcasses, animal refuse, pesky insect life, as well as poisonous plants and animals all over the place. But, even a beautiful paradise isle with a glassy, emerald-colored inlet ... just under the seemingly serene watery skin is a war zone. Bottom line ... for the evolutionist (atheistic or theistic) when man entered The Age of Reason, the world was

one of *terrific violence*.

Professing Christians who adhere to some longevity model must completely redefine what “*exceedingly good*” means in Genesis 1:31. No longevity model knows of an “*exceedingly good*” or “*extremely benevolent*” earth at any time. They all portray a violent, death dominated planet from inception to the current moment - and there never was a “*finished*” creation. And, as you will see, the theist evolutionist must *also* redefine New Testament materials. Let’s now look closer at The Fall.

The Fall of Man and Attendant Curses

The third chapter of Genesis is a narration of Adam’s fall and the accompanying fallout. In Genesis 2:16,17, God levied one prohibition on Adam. “*From any tree of the garden you may eat freely; but from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat from it you shall surely die.*” At that point, Eve was not yet created. It is impossible to know how long Adam lived in obedience to this command. And after Eve was created, we have no idea how long the two of them enjoyed life together before the Fall. Read Genesis 2:18-25 and 3:1-13. But with Adam’s rebellion, God then stepped in - and stepped on - His creation. He made it, and He could do with it as He pleased. And act He did. Here is *what we know happened*, to be followed by, *what else I suspect happened - and why*.

What We Know Happened

Genesis 3:14-24 tells us some specifics of God’s judgments. First, the serpent was cursed. It was relegated to crawling in the dust (snakes) and a hostile relationship became the norm between that animal type and man - “*between your seed and her seed.*” Some spiritualize this as hostility between believers and unbelievers, and God often does use a real *physical reality* to illustrate some spiritual truth. But for now, I’m sticking with the physical reality. Snakes are not embraced by most people.

Next, Eve was addressed. A multiplied pain in childbirth became her lot, along with a strained relationship between husband and wife (though great pain in childbirth, “*yet your desire shall be for your husband, and he shall rule over you*”). A strained relationship is an understatement.

Then Adam was addressed. The ground was cursed. It would yield thorns and thistles as the natural product, and man was relegated to eating “*plants of the field*” - not the Garden. Labor became toil (sorrow) for Adam, and was accompanied by the “*sweat of the face.*” This hostile toil became necessary to gain the essentials of life and would continue until he returned to the ground - “*because from it you were taken; for you are dust, and to dust you shall return.*” Death was created for him.

Then an animal(s) was killed so Adam and his wife could be clothed. That is ... more death. “*Oh, but Adam did not die that day like God said he would!*” Oh, ... but he did. We shall return to that shortly. Finally, Adam and Eve were cast out of the Garden of Eden, and were prohibited from ever returning. So, was that the whole story? I don't think so. I believe this is just a glimpse of the changes the world experienced – organic and inorganic.

What Else I Suspect Happened - and Why

The Bible does not tell us everything, but what it does tell us is accurate. Two very important New Testament passages impart critical information about the original creation. Here is the first. “*Just as through one man sin entered into the world, and death through sin, so death spread to all men, because all sinned*” (Ro 5:12). According to this verse, death did not exist *for man* until Adam sinned. But, would death be ruling *everywhere else* before Adam sinned? Would carnivores canvas the creation ripping up other animals - while Adam and Eve lived above the fray? Did disease, pestilence and mayhem attack every living thing *except* Adam and Eve? Were they immortal gods in the midst of a sea

of death? I don't know anyone who thinks God created such a confused mess - two creatures above death and the rest subject to it. So, if death did not exist *anywhere* before Adam's rebellion, do you know what that means? It means evolution is impossible. Why? Very simple. Without death, the theory of evolution collapses. It *requires death* from the first living molecule in the primordial slime up to the present. Evolution is built upon death - four billion years of it is mandatory. If death did not exist before Adam's rebellion, then the animals and plants were *created in final form* from the start. Special creation of every kind of plant and animal *is required*. That means God created each and every plant and animal kind from the dirt (from nonliving matter) - *and breathed life into them, too*. He made thousands and thousands of different plant types on Day Three. On Day Five, He created thousands and thousands of birds and sea kinds. Then, on Day Six, He created thousands of land animal kinds *and also Adam*. All these living things were probably reproductive adults - created in three, twenty-four hour periods. Do you see how great a divide the subject of death creates between evolution and Biblical Creationism? And the historical Adam was only about seventy-six generations prior to Jesus (see Lk 3:23-38). From an evolutionary viewpoint, this is so recent that any current life form around us now *was also there!* Extinctions are possible, but not the formation of new kinds of life.

Before proceeding to the second passage, take a moment and think about the assertions just made. These are stupefying claims. God created *from the dirt* all the different types of life, all over the globe - in three, twenty-four hour periods? Man is still incapable of creating any kind of life anywhere. All he can do is manipulate existing life or else mix up inorganic soups. So, concerning this three-day creation of all living organisms on the planet, you must make some decisions. You must ask, and then answer, these questions as you think about this stunning claim.

Question One: "*How **big** is my God?*"

Question Two: "***Can He** actually do such a thing in three, twenty-four hour periods?*"

Question Three: "***Did He** actually do these things in three, twenty-four hour periods?*"

If question two or three is answered, "*No,*" then you are an evolutionist of some type. There is no other choice. But the first question is the most basic. "*How **big** is my God?*" Is He capable of such a feat? The answer to this, one way or the other, does affect how *all* science is approached. I believe a root problem for "*theistic*" evolutionists (hybridists) rests with their faith. They suffer *more* from *the idea* that *any* being - God or not - could do such a thing. I do not believe they are stumbling over their study of the sciences as I do not think they really know much about science. Taking science classes, and even scoring well, does not mean one is then a scientist. Hybridists want to take *what they believe to be* the best of both systems - what seems good to them - and make a hybrid theory. In their minds, God may have created *to a degree*, but evolutionary processes were also involved. But, from the Bible's position on death alone, such mixes are wholly rejected. Atheistic evolutionists also recoil at such assertions (more on this later). But, back to you. How big is your God?

I cannot tell you when, where, or how He secured such ability or power, but He says He has always had it, and He says He is incapable of lying (Jer 32:27 and Heb 6:18). I have been given the ability to believe Him. Let's now look at the second New Testament passage related to The Fall.

*"For the anxious longing of the creation waits eagerly for the revealing of the sons of God. For the creation **was subjected to futility**, not of its own will, **but because of Him who subjected it**, in hope that the creation itself also will be **set free from its slavery to corruption into the freedom** of the glory of the children of God. For we know that **the whole creation groans and suffers the pains of childbirth together until now**" (Ro 8:19-22). This passage is absolutely packed. This creation was acted upon by God in very negative ways. It is **a futile creation, an enslaved creation, a suffering creation**, writhing*

in pain. Is this consistent with the Genesis 1:31 declaration of “Behold! ... an exceedingly good” creation? Our current environment is quite different from the one of Genesis 1:31. The simple statement, “Cursed is the ground because of you” (Gen 3:17), left out some of the “details” of a wholesale planetary change that occurred in that split second. Let’s revisit that moment. Here are *some of the other things* I suspect happened at the fall of Adam.

First, the broad stroke. I believe *every negative thing in this entire creation can be traced back to God’s judgments in Genesis 3:14-21*. Phenomenal fundamental changes ripped through the entire created order and our world descended into a very, very deep valley. We live in it. Only God, Adam, Eve, and the angels, know how deep a valley was carved out. To be sure, God has left a lot of beauty here, but death and its acolytes permeate everything. Though sometimes hidden, death is always there. Even a perfect sunset is marred by the fact it is a passing jewel. We are pushed on and cannot stay there. Now, here are some of the fine hairs that make up this broad brush stroke.

A Futile Creation. Over and over, Solomon complained about the *futility of this age*. If you want candid observations about this current age, stripped of idealism, self delusion, and false fragrances, read Ecclesiastes. It is twelve short chapters. The positive thinkers of our world do not like this “negative” diatribe by Solomon. “*It is filled with sour grapes and pessimism!*” When I read it, I see realism. Solomon did not want to play positive mind games with himself or his audience. Reality, whether positive or negative, **is what it is** - reality. Quite honestly, an atheistic evolutionist who thinks on, and understands, the implications of his/her system lives in a world of no hope. As one example, our sun, that creates beautiful scenes as it sets, *mocks us*. It is dying. Creation scientists agree with that point. The sun makes life possible, but it is setting *on us* and evolutionists realize it will take the life it accidentally spawned down with it. What a cruel irony. But rather than futilely scrambling for a space program that can take us to some new home in another solar system with its dying sun, or hoping to be rescued by the hands or claws of some benign alien race - the Biblical Creationist again takes one more step beyond what the evolutionist takes. The Creationist examines the Biblical material concerning *the afterlife*, and embraces that material also - which we will soon examine. This futility factor was not present, or possible, before the curses by God in Genesis 3. “*For the creation was **subjected** to futility, not of its own will, but because of Him who subjected it*” Was this creation already “*subjected to futility*” when He called His creation “*exceedingly good?*” I think not. But there’s more.

An Enslaved Creation. Not only is the creation now futile, it is also in “*slavery to corruption.*” Other translations say, in “*bondage to decay.*” The Second Law of Thermodynamics agrees. Everything tends toward disorder. Things devolve and decay. Was the creation like this when God declared, “*Behold, it is exceedingly good!*”?

A Suffering Creation. “*The whole creation groans and suffers **the pains of childbirth** together until now!*” Ask a woman in labor if she is experiencing an “*exceedingly benevolent*” situation. Our current world is described as being in the middle of those pains - now. So, is the “*exceeding benevolence*” of Genesis 1:31 the same creation as what is described in Romans 8?

Our world is a place of futility, decay (corruption), and suffers under death and destruction. This is not the same world as the one of Genesis 1:31. “*And God saw all that He had made, and behold! It was extremely pleasant.*”

At the sentencing of Adam, monumental change also occurred in reference to his physical body. When told he would return to dust, either his physical body changed, or the environment changed, or both. The net result? *The environment* gained physical dominion over Adam’s body *it did not have before*. Death, and all its acolytes of disease, injury, and pain, came into being and gained dominion. This is not a little thing. This is the legacy he passed down to us all. The result? We don’t really *live* here ... we just survive here for a few years. “*Therefore, just as through **one man** sin entered into the*

world, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men, because all sinned” (Ro 5:12). So, what might be some other changes after Adam’s sin?

Biologically:

Carnivores came into being.

Lethal and/or debilitating bacteria and virus strains came into existence.

Poisonous plants and poisonous animals came into existence. God either modified current plants and animals, created new ones, or both, and just did not bother telling us.

Inorganically:

Natural disasters became possible. This includes floods, earthquakes, volcanoes, lethal lightening strikes, tornadoes, hurricanes, etc., as well as meteor strikes, damaging solar flares, damaging radiations, etc., etc., etc.

Man also became subject to accidents and injury. How many have simply slipped, broken a hip, and then succumbed to various complications?

As men multiplied, the manifestations of his sin nature have resulted in an untold amount of damage to others or self. Everything from horrendous physical attacks (murder, torture, assault, maiming) to a whole array of mental and emotional assaults (slanders, railings, false witnessing, verbal assaults, victims of divorce and infidelity, etc., etc., etc).

There are many other relatively minor irritations that arose in this valley that will be absent once this age is terminated. Things like rotten odors and tastes, offensive sounds, or harmful lighting. Time itself may be an entity unique to this age. When Satan sinned, the clock turned on, and a time limit was set on his actions and pursuits. When the final judgement is completed, the clock may cease, with eternity replacing it. Time, as we have known it, may just melt away as it is replaced by an eternal day. Time's demands as currently experienced will forever cease.

It is important to understand that when God acts, many collateral things may happen *that He does not tell us about*. Let’s consider Eve for a moment. God *did not* say to Eve *that she, too, would return to the dust*. But, ... she did. That judgment was not stated, but it became a very real consequence for Eve - and every woman after her.

Second, you might have noticed Eve (and Adam was with her) carried on a lucid conversation with ... an animal! There seemed to be no surprise *this animal talked!* I believe animals were muted at the fall. In Numbers 22:22-35, we have a remarkable account of Balaam and his donkey. Balaam began striking her, *“and the Lord opened **the mouth of the donkey**, and **she said** to Balaam, ‘What have I done to you, that you have struck me these three times?’”* (v.28). The conversation then continues. In this whole exchange, it says *the donkey talked* - not that the Lord spoke through the donkey. God, for that moment, unmuted the animal - and she spoke what was on her mind! If both of these assertions about Eve and this donkey are correct, then it is clear *we are not told everything that changed at the time of the curses of Genesis 3:14-21*. So, what else occurred? Well, review the list above and you will think of many more negative realities with which we contend. We are born in, raised in, live in, and die in - a very deep valley.

As you can see, I am asserting that a tremendous number of *negative* miracles occurred at the same time - in the twinkling of an eye. Well, so what? If you believe the very first verse of the Bible, *“In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth”* - then He can do anything He wants. And so what if He didn’t bother telling us everything? Most people do not believe what He has told us already, so why tell us more?

The Mother of All Errors ... For Evolutionists

Evolutionists assert our universe is between fourteen to twenty billion years old with earth being about five billion. Geologists measure the ages of rocks and date them in millions of years. When astronomers study the stars, they believe the light they are seeing is millions of years old. These type of “facts” have caused more Bible believers to run away from the literalism I am forwarding than any other contention. And it is true that many of the laws *of the current age* do support some of these positions. For example, light does travel - and the sunlight we see is seven minutes old. If the sun blew up, we would not know it happened (or be fried) until seven minutes after the fact. Similarly, “simple” mathematics calculates the light of a star that is a million light years away - is a million years old. But, it is precisely at this point, the evolutionist is the victim of grave error. They *assume the current laws of nature have always been in place!*

And what about the “birth” of Adam. Was he born? The Creation Account has him formed on the sixth day - *as an adult*. At one *second* old, he probably looked thirty years old! When Eve was “born,” she probably looked thirty, too. They both had *an appearance of age* - at “birth.” Current natural law knows of nothing like this. But this is also true *of all the animals and all the plants in the original created order*. **They were created mature.** This is sometimes referred to as Special Creation, and is called the Pro-chronic or Ideal Time theory. Concerning the stars, He says He made them “*to give light on the earth*” (Gen 1:15). That is their purpose. For Him to set them in varied places of the heavens *with their light already here from the moment of creation* - well, what’s the big deal? In a totally consistent fashion, they, like Adam and Eve, had *an appearance of age* at “birth!” And the same goes for the rocks. We may find that at The Fall, *time* (in a degenerative sense) *began*. Half-lives began, along with all kinds of other scientific laws, *that were not in the original created order*.

To take *current* natural law and impose it on the pre-fall world is a different kind of Genesis - the genesis of all evolutionary error. I call it, “*The Mother of all errors.*” Evolutionists assume the natural laws of this order are *eternal laws* when *they are actually temporal laws* - coming into existence about ten thousand years ago. Maybe the miracles in the Bible are exhibitions of the laws governing the eternal order. They might be insertions of *the real laws* operating outside this bubble of degeneration. Yes, the natural laws of this fallen order may indeed be *the aberrant laws*. They, like death, are actually *unnatural*. In fact, ...I am sure they are. Wow!

A Momentary Side Step - The Tower of Babel

Have you ever heard (or had) this question? “*If Adam and Eve were the first human beings, and if we are all descendants of Adam, then where did all the races come from?*” Built into this question is the assumption (probably accurate) that a literal Biblical Adam and Eve are so recent in history, the required time for such diversity in the races is impossible, especially when current races can be traced quite some ways back. What happened at Babel was another *creative* miracle of the same genre, as the ones in the Creation Account. You have probably never heard this before, and some of what I am will now forward is not some cardinal issue of the faith. Indeed, I do not even assert it as absolute truth. But I will not be the least bit surprised if this “*hunch*” will be revealed as a correct on Judgment Day.

In Genesis 11 we are told, “*the whole earth used the same language and the same words.*” The people decided to build a city with a tower that would “*reach into heaven.*” They wanted to “*make a name*” for themselves and they *did not* want to be scattered “*over the face of the whole earth*” (Gen 11:1,4). God had a different desire. In a split second, *He confused their language so they could not understand one another*. This is an incredible account worth examination. At the moment of this miracle, the people did not quit speaking - they just could not understand what anyone else was saying! And these new languages were so different from one another, that some sort of sign language was not

even possible. As a result, the work ended, and God “*scattered them abroad over the face of the whole earth*” (Gen 11:9). So, in an instant, *their brains were totally rewired!* One moment they spoke, *and thought*, in a universal language. Then, in the next, they spoke, *and thought*, in an entirely new language. And I am certain they did not think *their* language changed, *but everyone else’s did!* And when they thought about their past, they surely thought to themselves in their *new* language - and it never occurred to these newly linguistically rewired minds that those memories were originally made in the previous universal language! This was an astounding feat by God.

So, how many languages did God create in that split second? Each language would have been instantly invented with vocabulary, phonics, sentence structure ... but He only told us, “*He confused their language.*” He did indeed do that, but He also did much more. Much, much more. What a humble God we have. Just as He omitted telling us that Eve was now subject to death or that He changed our natural laws, so, too, He may have left out telling us much of Babel's story. Maybe ... He also confused skin colors, hair colors, hair textures, and all kinds of minor things like eyelids, nose and lip shapes - *and didn’t bother telling us.* He then drove some north (Caucasians), some south (Negroids), some east (Asians), and some west (Middle Easterners). Absurd you say? “*Behold, I am the Lord, the God of all flesh; is anything too difficult for Me?*” (Jer 32:27). While I do not push this as dogmatic truth, I will not be surprised to find out this *is* the truth on the origin of the races. God does not tell us everything, but what He does tell us is solid.

So, A Comparison of the Two Competing Systems Concerning Death

Evolution and Biblical Creationism, disagree on death - when, how, and why it exists. Compare these points 1 to 1, 2 to 2, etc. The new material introduced here will be discussed. Read on!

For Creationists:

1. Death was *totally absent* from our completed, original heavens and earth - yet life was fully present.
2. Death is *unnatural* and was imposed upon man, by God, when the first man sinned.
3. The rest of creation was also *negatively impacted* when Adam sinned.
4. Death *has spread* to all human beings, because all sin and all are in Adam.
5. Death is called “*the final enemy.*” It is destined to be overcome by Christ.
6. Non Christians are headed for “*the second death.*” Man is potentially subject to *three* deaths (Take a moment to write down what you think these three are - and read on to see if you are correct.)
7. Death, and all its attendant maladies, will be *forever absent* in the new heavens and earth.

For Evolutionists (and all longevity model proponents):

1. Death was absent until life arose. Then it was just there and *present* from the beginning of life.
2. Death is *natural* and is absolutely imperative to evolutionary progression.
3. All living things *have been dominated* by death from the start.
4. Death has not “*spread*” to all humans. Death has *always been*, and *always will be*, integral to the human experience.
5. Death may be seen as “*an enemy*” from an individual’s point of view, but it is just an inanimate, natural, *and necessary*, part of the progression of the species. Death is *a universal constant*.
6. There is but *one death* for any living thing. Death forever extinguishes the individual life.
7. This existence *is all that is*. All will continue in random development just as all has randomly evolved. The only “*controls*” over this random development are natural laws - which randomly developed. Metaphysical considerations are wishful thinking at best, and insane activities at worst. The hope of a utopian new heavens and new earth may be a benign speculation, but the belief that one’s

moral or civil values have merit and should be forced on others constitute metaphysical malignancies (For a more through discussion on the conflict between evolution and all metaphysical valuation systems [Humanistic and Theistic alike], read “*Abortion: How (and Why) Abortion Resides in the Weakest Form of Human Thought and Valuation,*” It’s free at <https://freelygive-n.com>).

Here is another way to state Biblical Creationism concerning death's presence with us.

So, Where Did Death Come From?

The Bible says death came from God. Just as He created life, He also created death. It is His foundational response to rebellion against Him. In fact, *three* deaths exist. That discussion is coming.

Was There Ever a Time Death Did Not Exist?

Yes. Death arose *after* the creation of morally accountable beings and *after* sin entered the ranks. So, the angels were alive for a period of time before any of them sinned - so they knew a time when death did not exist. Before Adam's violation, our world was free of death. When he sinned, death fell. But, it did not end with him. “*All have sinned and fall short of the glory (honor) of God ... the wages of sin is death*” (Ro 3:23 & 6:23). That is why everyone dies. As an aside, the moment Jesus died, the sins He had taken on Himself (ours), *were paid for*, and vanished. So, Jesus stood, on the other side of death’s door, with no personal sin - and *had to rise from the dead* as death had no rightful claim to Him. Where sin does not exist, death does not and cannot exist either.

Was Death in Existence Before Adam’s Sin?

It is highly probable fallen angels were in the throes of the first death before man was created. Fallen angels are at least subject to “*the second death*” which may be *their* second death. I believe all death will be a limited exercise contained to the fallen angels and fallen man (and our present creation).

Then Why Does Death Rule the Rest of Nature?

The natural order, which was subjected to Adam, suffered this fate because of his failing. Nature became collateral damage by God's decree (See Ro 8:19-22). So, the impact of *that one sin* cascaded to create this horrific valley in which we find ourselves. While it is true all sins cause damage, some obviously cause more. This was a big one. (That may turn out to be the greatest understatement of all time by a human.) The infraction seemed *small* at the time (just one bite from one fruit), but that one act of rebellion soon reverberated through every subatomic particle in the entire universe.

Will There Ever Be a Time Death No Longer Exists?

I will refrain from answering at this point. The answer may be surprising. Read on!

Back to the Bible

The Essence of Man

Before discussing the three deaths man is subject to, some determinations on the essence of man - what we are - will be helpful. This will lay the groundwork for the coming information. While there has always been debate over the “*components*” of man, 1Thessalonians 5:23, seems to portray man as a three dimensional. “*Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you **entirely**; and may **your spirit and soul and body** be preserved complete, without blame at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.*” With this as an accepted foundation, can these three parts be defined?

To begin, *our body* is our physical body. But now, the debate. The spirit and soul are not visible.

If they are two separate components of man, there is no clear-cut Bible definition for either of them. I loosely hold that *our soul* is comprised of our mind, will, and emotions. I guess you could wrap these up broadly as our personality. *Our spirit* is another dimension of our invisible self. I do not know if I can really define it. But I think it is something different than either body or soul and has a life, or death of its own - depending on one's relationship with God.

It's possible I have mislabeled the two invisible components of man. *Our spirit* may be our mind, will, and emotions, and *our soul* may be the part of us that is in direct relationship with God (or not). This is not a good time for confusion, but if I have erred, *the error is in semantics - not substance*. I will explain this in the section, "**A Fly in the Ointment.**" Now, man's three deaths.

Death One: Spiritual Death

Adam was told, "*From any tree of the garden you may eat freely; but from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for **in the day that you eat from it you shall surely die***" (Gen 2:16,17). Adam did eat of it, and Adam did die. "*Ahah! You want to take the Bible literally - **but Adam did not die that day!***" Oh, but he did. That day, indeed that moment of sin, he died. He was instantly separated from God, and that placed him *in death*. Here is the scriptural progression of sin.

First, God told the Israelites, "*... your iniquities have made **a separation** between you and your God, and your sins have hid His face from you so that He does not hear*" (Isa 59:2). (Technically, He does hear, as each person will account for every word uttered [Mt 12:36]. But He does not "*hear*" in the sense of responding.) So, sin first *separates* one from God.

Second, "*all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God*" (Ro 3:23). Every human being sins and therefore all have become *separated* from God.

Third, this is *what that separation means*. "*And you were **dead** in your trespasses and sins ...*" (Eph 2:1. Also see Col 2:13). God views one who sins *as dead*. And what He says is dead - is dead. Adam did die *the moment he sinned*. Physical death came later. So, one can be physically alive, mentally alive, volitionally alive, and emotionally alive - but spiritually dead. Paul said, "*I was once alive apart from the Law; but when the commandment came, **sin became alive, and I died; and this commandment, which was to result in life, proved to result in death for me; for sin, taking opportunity through the commandment, deceived me, and through it killed me***" (Ro 7:9-11). Sin *killed* Paul - but he was still physically, mentally, emotionally, and volitionally alive.

Incidentally, those without access to the Law, are not free of this death state. "*For all who have sinned without the Law will also perish without the Law For when the Gentiles, who do not have the Law, do **instinctively** the things of the Law, these ... **are a law to themselves** They show the work of the Law written in their hearts, their **conscience** bearing witness, and their thoughts alternately accusing or else defending them*" (Ro 2:12,14,15). At some point, those who do not have the Law, still fall to sin as they violate their conscience. "*The Scripture has shut up **all men under sin***" (Gal 3:22), as "*both Jews and Greeks are all under sin*" (Ro 3:9).

There is debate if we come into this world spiritually dead - as spiritual stillborns - or if we are initially alive to God until we cross that fateful line of personal sin. I guess I would say there is a time we are alive to God (Paul said he was) but that window closes very quickly as we soon sin against what we know is right. Anyone reading this has long crossed that line. Each individual has a moment when God sees him/her as accountable for wrong choices in life. That moment varies for each individual. If a person dies before that moment is reached, I do not believe that one is subject to "*the second death*" which is to be addressed shortly.

True spirituality exists only where there is a real connection to the Creator. In Adam, we are all spiritually dead - at least when we reach accountability for sin before Him. Once we sin, the connection

with the living God is severed - and the relationship with Him *dies*. This spiritual death is poorly understood by many Christians. Presenting spiritual calls to unbelievers - is a call to the dead. While we are to declare the things of life to dead people, we should understand, it takes the miraculous, gracious power of God to give life to that dead one. “(E)ven when we were **dead** by reason of our transgressions, **(He) made us alive together with Christ ...**” (Eph 2:5). When this occurs, the dead one has been “*born again*” (Jn 3:1-15, 1Cor 3:4-7, and 1Pet 1:23-25). Absent this new birth, a person “*cannot enter into the kingdom of God*” (Jn 3:5).

Spiritual death is an extremely significant death. When a creature, made in God’s image, is separated from the source of life, an explosive circumstance is set in motion - a state of affairs destined to misery. I have used different illustrations in an attempt to convey this state of affairs in the past - but they all fall short. Here they are anyway.

Attempt one. In our spiritually dead state, we are like a vacuum cleaner unplugged from the source of power. It can’t work. (Neither does this illustration because that vacuum would just sit there. We obviously don’t - even though we probably would be better off if we did.)

Attempt two. Maybe it is more like plugging an AC current vacuum into a DC current outlet. I don’t know if the vacuum would blow up or the motor melt or the entire thing would catch on fire. I just know it wouldn’t work and would come to ruin. That’s us.

Attempt three. Or maybe this situation is more like clockwise versus counterclockwise motion. God thinks, acts, and feels clockwise. When we enter spiritual death, our thinking, actions, and feelings begin moving counterclockwise. We might slow down the speed of that counterclockwise movement through reforms and resolutions, but it is just a slowdown. There is never a true reversal in direction.

Attempt four. Or maybe one can view spiritual death like a fish out of water. Once the fish is removed from an environment of life, it is still alive for a while - flipping, flopping, convulsing - and then physically dies.

Those are some attempts to illustrate the terrible position in which this spiritual death places us. Human beings (and angels as well) who are alive, but separated from God, are in a continual state of misfire. The degree of misfire varies, but misfires rule the day. The first and foremost *commandment* is that we are to love the Lord our God with all of our heart, soul, mind, and strength (Mt 22:37,38 and Deut 6:5). In our separated state, we *never* do that. That means we live in a constant state of sin. Actually, *we can’t fulfill this commandment*. We are spiritually dead toward God.

There is not even a little spark of spiritual *life* in us. We are **alive**, but **life** is completely absent. When addressing Christians about their pre-conversion state, Paul said, “*you were dead in your trespasses and sins, in which you formally **walked** according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, of the spirit that is now working in the sons of disobedience. Among them we too all **lived** in the lusts of the flesh, indulging the desires of the flesh, and of the mind, and were by nature, children of wrath, even as the rest*” (Eph 2:1-3). Notice we were “*dead,*” yet “*walked*” and “*lived!*” He also said, “... (Y)ou were formally alienated and hostile in mind, engaged in evil deeds ...” (Col 1:21). “*For those who are according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh For the mind set on the flesh is death ... because the mind set on the flesh ... does not subject itself to the law of God, **for it is not even able to do so**; and those who are in the flesh cannot please God*” (Ro 8:5-8). That is why I said we *can’t fulfill God’s first commandment* when in this separated state. “*There is **none** righteous, not even one; there is **none** who understands, there is **none** who seeks for God; **All** have turned aside, together they have become useless; there is **no one** who **does good**, there is **not even one***” (Ro 3:10-12 from Ps 14:1-3). This spiritual death situation is a real bad deal. To

be made in the image of God, and then separated from Him - it is no wonder people are all messed up. Crossed wires with short circuits everywhere. Some people unravel - some explode. Some maintain a fairly even keel, but even they have to continually shift their weight to keep their boat from capsizing. In a strange way, I do have a type of respect for people who live their whole life and never turn to the Lord. I was not able to do that. But their "*strength*" will not prevail and is an overestimation of oneself. A Wave is coming that no one will be able to successfully navigate.

As you can see in the passages just cited, God regularly addresses *the natural mind* as the place of *corruption*. It is "*alienated and hostile*," "*set on the flesh*," and indulges itself in its lusts. He also speaks of "*a depraved mind*." Thoughts are the basis of all our actions. And deeply ingrained values (formed by thoughts), lay the base for our emotional responses as well. As an example of this progression, when discussing homosexuals, God speaks of giving them over to "*a depraved mind*." This is a judgment toward them as "*they did not see fit to have God in knowledge any longer*." Here is the bulk of the passage. "... (T)hey became futile in their speculations (thinking) and their foolish heart was darkened (a passive verb - thus acted upon) Therefore, God gave them over in the lusts of their hearts to impurity" and "*to degrading passions; for the women exchanged the natural function for that which is unnatural, and in the same way also the men abandoned the natural function of the woman and burned in their desire toward one another, men in men committing indecent acts And just as they did not see fit to have God in knowledge any longer, God gave them over to a depraved mind, to do things which are not proper ...*" (Ro 1:21,24,26-28). A mind unplugged from God, and that is the reality for all who are spiritually dead, leads to a depraved mind and *the doing* of improper things.

There are two other important Biblical teachings about the mind of man. First, a mind separated from God (the spiritually dead) often believes *it is thinking correctly*. "*There is a way which seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death*" (Pr 14:12). Second, one of God's primary priorities *is to change the thinking*. The Greek word, *metanoia*, literally means "*after mind*." It is a rethinking on some subject followed by changing one's mind from a previous conclusion. To translate this word, "*repent*," is unfortunate as most people relate that word *to deeds*. But it has to do with *our thinking*. God's goal for the Christian is to bring *every thought* into conformity with Christ (2Cor 10:5 and Ro 12:2). He/she is to be transformed so as to *have the mind* of Christ (1Cor 2:16). If one *thinks* the way God does, everything else falls into place - will, actions, and emotions.

The material in the last paragraph sets the stage for tremendous clashes. Bitter ones. The mature mind of the flesh not only believes *it is right*, but it believes *the mind of Christ is the depraved one!* Head-on collisions are unavoidable. "*When a wise man has controversy with a foolish man, the foolish man either rages or laughs and there is no rest*" (Pr 29:9). *Thoughts* are the genesis of the clash. God levels a warning toward all who set themselves against His thoughts/positions. "*Woe to those who call evil 'good' and good 'evil'; who substitute darkness for light and light for darkness; who substitute bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter!*" (Isa 5:20). Below are a few examples of human thoughts directly opposed to God's positions. I have written on some of these at freelygive-n.com.

Example one. "*Homosexuality is a viable alternative lifestyle. Same sex activity is fine as long as it is consensual.*" This even violates the thinking of the evolutionist. See "*Evolution and Homosexuality*" or "*Sex and the Bible*."

Example two. "*Adultery is not 'a sin.' It is a tryst, an indiscretion, or a lapse in judgment.*" Again, see "*Sex and the Bible*."

Example three. "*Capital punishment is murder by the state. Murderers, and those guilty of capital offenses, have a right to life.*" See "*Capital Punishment and the Bible*."

Example four. "*Abortion is a woman's right. It is a privacy issue that begins and ends entirely with*

each individual woman.” See “*Abortion: How (and Why) Abortion Resides in the Weakest Form of Human Thought and Valuation.*”

Example five. “*The spanking of children is child abuse. Violence begets violence.*” In truth, it is child abuse to not spank. Many of the alternative disciplines are actually the abusive ones. I need to write an article on this.

Example six. “*Drunkards, drug addicts, sex addicts, gambling addicts, etc., have a disease. One afflicted by disease cannot be held responsible for resultant actions.*” I need to write on this one, too. The latest one I heard was in an ad, “*If you, or someone you love, has a **substance use** disorder ...*”

These errors are proclaimed “*enlightened*” and “*good*” ... even “*progressive.*” Examples like these abound. It is astonishing how these positions are exactly backwards - yet advocates are absolutely certain they are right. I believe it is possible the final governing system of this age will be one of a complete secular humanism. The 666 of The Revelation may be symbolic of adherence to a totally secular system. Bible numerologists maintain that six is a symbolic number for man, and three is a symbolic number for completeness. So, three (3) sixes (6's) may represent a completely secular humanistic governing system - all values being man made. Such a system will not only be void of Biblical values, but it will also be void of accurate science when that science contradicts the secular humanistic value. This is clearly revealed in “*Abortion: How (and Why) Abortion Resides in the Weakest Form of Human Thought and Valuation*” and “*Evolution and Homosexuality.*”

So, the point is this. A mind separated from God by this spiritual death, leads to all kinds of faulty conclusions *and resultant errant actions*. All human atrocities can be traced back to this source. Spiritual death is a spring of death. We drink deeply from this fount. That is the legacy Adam passed on to us. But, this is just the first of his “*gifts.*” Let’s unwrap some others.

Physical Death

This is the first of the physical deaths, but the second *experience* of death. When Adam sinned, his physical body returned to dust from whence it came. At the moment of curse, the environment gained dominion over Adam’s body. As his descendants, that mortal flesh passed to us. Our bodies are subject to disease, injury, and ultimately death. It does not matter how well we take care of ourselves - our bodies will succumb to this environment.

When examining the curses of Genesis 3:14-19, some maintain God cursed the serpent and the ground - *but not the man and woman*. To come to this conclusion, one must believe this “*return to the ground*” statement is idle talk. So too, “*(t)he wages of sin is death*” (Ro 6:23). An adherent to any longevity model sees this sin/death thing *as stupid*. This is an absurd position *as death was already the reality*. Evolutionists of all stripes (including *theistic* longevity model adherents) say, “*Death has been the constant companion of all life on this globe for the billion years it has been pulling itself up from the slime. To think death was absent until man ‘sinned’ is just ridiculous.*” Yet, that is exactly what the Bible asserts. Longevity model adherents *cannot disprove* this. They can only say they do not *believe* it. *They believe* death started with the first living organism and has been the companion of every single living thing that has ever been or ever will be. So, that first living organism not only had to be birthed from inorganics with a fully functioning reproductive capacity, it also had to be mortal. The *belief* of the evolutionist is clearly different than the *belief* of the Creationist. And *both* are faith systems! Faith, by definition, is not subject to proof by empirical verification. The evolutionist cannot prove his/her faith position any more than I can prove mine. One is reduced to examining evidences leading up to the point of stepping into a faith posture, and then deciding if those evidences justify the chosen faith.

While it is possible God did not negatively touch Adam’s body (He just strengthened the

environment), I do not believe this to be the case. For example, I do not think Adam and Eve originally ran around behind the bushes in Eden relieving themselves. Their bodies changed – for the worse. But whatever the specifics, the reality of physical death, when that did not exist before, is a curse *on the man ... but also on Eve*. As pointed out earlier, this “*return to the ground*” talk was directed at Adam - but Eve died too, and all her daughters. This is no blessing. God calls death the enemy (1Cor 15:26).

Eternal Death ... Or, The Second Death

This is a bit complicated to explain. In this “*death*” nothing actually dies in the sense of ceasing to exist. Also, if being alive in a physical body in this state can properly be called death, then this is the second death *physically*, but actually the third *experience* of death. Please listen carefully.

The “*second death*” is a place. “*But for the cowardly and unbelieving and abominable and murderers and immoral persons and sorcerers and idolaters and all liars, their part will be in the lake that burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death*” (Rev 21:8). There is no *life* in this lake, yet all who are there will be eternally *alive*. “*The devil who deceived them was thrown into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are also; and they will be tormented day and night forever and ever*” (Rev 20:10). Jesus often referenced rejected individuals as being “*cast out into the outer darkness; in that place there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth*” (Mt 8:12). “*Weeping*” is grief or pain (or both) and “*gnashing of teeth*” is either pain or hatred (or both). To be in darkness with one’s senses intact is torment, too. Light deprivation has very negative effects. This “*second death*” is one in which the victim is alive physically, volitionally, mentally, and emotionally. One is in a full receptivity mode, with full awareness and sensitivity to the surrounding environment. But all the input for eternity - is death. “*Alive*” but encased in the wrath of God - forever. Every atom around the victim is hostile to life, yet the victim lives on. Some have described Hell as a place that is void of God’s goodness. The reality of this is unthinkable. I haven’t created this, and I have no vote on its existence or duration. I am simply informing you.

So, this lake of fire is actually a third *form* of death, but the second physically. But, there may be another reason why this lake of fire is called “*the second death*.” Jesus said this place was “*prepared for the devil and his angels*” (Mt 25:41). Since it was initially prepared *for them*, maybe the reference is to *their* second death. When they sinned, maybe they died *spiritually* at that moment (like we did), so this lake is *their* second death - but (potentially) man’s third. I did say you would be exposed to things you have never heard didn’t I? There’s more!

Life

So what does the Bible say about life? From the evolutionist’s viewpoint, this life discussion is quite simple. An organism is born, lives for a time, and then dies. That’s it. That’s the way it has been, and that’s the way it will be. Some hope to thwart death by the discovery of some kind of regenerative force, but once death becomes the individual’s reality, that’s it.

The Bible paints a totally different picture. Listen to this remarkable passage from Ecclesiastes. When speaking about man, Solomon states, “*(God) has also set eternity in their heart ...*” (Eccl 3:11). This explains so much! Because eternity is *set* in man’s heart, death does not compute! It *can’t*! Eternity and temporalness, cannot be equally in play in the same heart! We *say* we know we will one day die, but we *do not* really understand that. *And I have proof for this assertion!* Read on.

If we really understood we were marching toward death, and heard a rumor that someone rose from the dead, we would drop everything and investigate that with the greatest of fervor. No one would need to tell us that *we should* investigate this, and no one *would be able to stop us*. In fact, if we understood we were going to die, a report of this nature would be broadcast on the news 24/7 and every

human being would be clamoring for information - and would pay any price and make any sacrifice to get into that action. When Christians say, “*Jesus rose from the dead*” that claim does not even raise an eyebrow - unless to say, “*Yeah, right. And what have you been smoking lately?*” Some people even set out to disprove this claim with great vigor.

In the account of the rich man, who was in Hades, a remarkable discussion ensued with Abraham. (Hades is the place where the disembodied, unsaved go after death - to be discussed shortly.) From that place, the tormented rich man begged that Lazarus *be sent back from the dead* to warn his five brothers about that place of torment. Abraham said, “*They have Moses and the Prophets; let them hear them.*’ *But the rich man said, ‘No, father Abraham, but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent!’ But Abraham replied, ‘If they do not listen to Moses and the Prophets, neither will they be persuaded if someone rises from the dead’*” (Lk 16:28-31). At least seven separate individuals wrote the New Testament and they all declared the same thing; *Jesus was stone cold dead, and three days after His death, he physically walked out of His tomb alive.* It is even asserted He appeared to more than five hundred people on one occasion (1Cor 15:6). But have you ever even made a *cursory examination* of these claims? Do you know *who* made these claims or anything about these people? Are you even *remotely interested* in searching this out? If not, why not? The answer is exceedingly simple. Since God has set eternity in your heart *you really do not understand you are going to die.* You see, YOU are the proof I said I was going to display!

Now, be truthful. When you first heard of the resurrection of Jesus, did you drop everything and investigate this claim? And you could die *at any second.* None of us really understand death is around some bend waiting for us with open jaws. We continue loping along, oblivious to this incomprehensible reality, until we stumble off into it. We have not been built to comprehend death. Some, who have had a close brush with death, are affected so as to alter their priorities in the here and now, but even in these cases, they must remind themselves of their mortality. At best, death is seen as a shadow somewhere up ahead. Abraham’s remark to any of us might be revised ever so slightly: “*If they will not listen to the Bible, neither will they be persuaded if Jesus did come back from the dead.*” The month after an Easter service has about the same attendance as the month before it.

Also, what evolutionists call an “*instinct for survival*” I see as an eternity being *set in the heart.* Threats to life are *naturally resisted* because death, as an unnatural imposition, is feared and acted against. Eternity set in the heart is the *natural order for all living things – not just man.* All life has a natural, eternal “*instinct*” for life. This is another example where God underreports what He has done.

All the Biblical Scenarios of Death and Life in the Human Experience.

First, The Terminology Concerning Death:

Spiritual death - occurs when one sins against God in an accountable way. God alone knows when, and if, this occurs for the individual human being. Some, who are mentally incapable, may never reach a point of accountability. This is between God and each individual.

Physical death - the expiration of one’s physical body.

Hades - the “*holding tank*” for all who have physically died apart from of Christ. It is a place of torment for all disembodied souls. They are mentally, volitionally, and emotionally alive, but remain spiritually dead. Their body is temporarily dead. This state concludes on Judgment Day.

Hell - the final destination for everyone outside of Christ. The person is alive physically, volitionally, mentally, and emotionally, but continues spiritually dead. Jesus refers to Hell as a place of “*eternal punishment*” (Mt 25:46). The most accurate of descriptive words and the most vivid of imaginations and meditations fall desperately short of the reality of this place. Just as I cannot grasp or

convey how magnificent Heaven and the coming eternal events are going to be, so also I cannot grasp or convey the true dreadfulness and horrors of eternal Hell. No one can.

Now, The Terminology Concerning Life:

Born Again - the event that occurs when one receives Christ. One's spirit is "reborn" and the connection with God is established (possibly reestablished if it was indeed active before one's personal, accountable fall). I am a bit conflicted upon our original connection with God being truly intact, but based upon Romans 1:19, and 7:9, maybe it was - thus the spirit is born *again*. This is probably the correct position. But it may mean born a *second* time. I think that was Nicodemus's take in John 3:1-15.

Paradise - the "holding tank" for all who have physically died in Christ. It is a place of "comfort" at the very least for these disembodied spirits (Lk 16:25). They are alive mentally, volitionally, emotionally, **and spiritually**. Therefore, I call them more than disembodied **souls** - they are disembodied **spirits**. Their physical bodies are temporarily dead, but this will change on Judgment Day.

Heaven - there will be a new heavens **and a new earth** "where righteousness dwells" (2Pet 3:13). Those in Christ will either have their physical body raised immortal, or, if on earth when He ends this age, their body will be instantly changed into an immortal body. They will all be alive mentally, volitionally, emotionally, spiritually, and physically. Death, and all acolytes, will be eternally removed.

So Here are the Possible Scenarios and Fates for an Individual.

Physical Birth/ Spiritual Death/ Physical Death/ Hades/ Hell. Some will die spiritually, then die physically, then go to Hades, to then be physically resurrected - with body and soul sentenced to Hell. This is the fate of everyone who has physically died (or will) outside of Christ. ***Born physically ... die spiritually ... die physically ... die eternally (Hades and then Hell) - so, born once; die three times.***

Physical Birth/ Spiritual Death/ Born Again/ Physical Death/ Paradise/ Heaven. These people died spiritually, but became Christians (born again) before they physically died. At physical death, they went to Paradise, to then be physically resurrected with body, soul and spirit placed in the new heavens and earth. ***Born physically ... die spiritually ... born again ... die physically ... go to Paradise and then Heaven - so, born twice; die twice.***

Physical Birth/ Spiritual Death/ Hell. Some will have died spiritually, but will be physically alive at the return of Christ. It does not appear they will then physically die, but will go directly to the Judgment seat of Christ. They will then be damned with an immortal body. ***Born physically ... die spiritually ... die eternally (directly to Hell) - so, born once; die twice.***

Physical Birth/ Spiritual Death/ Born Again/ Heaven. Some will die spiritually, but then become Christians (born again) and will be physically alive at the return of Christ. At the moment of His return, these people will be physically changed (made immortal) and go directly to heaven. Physical death and Paradise will be skipped. ***Born physically ... die spiritually ... born again ... then directly to Heaven - so, born twice; die once.***

Physical Being (some pre-born, some born)/ Physical Death/ Paradise/ Heaven. Some physically die before falling into spiritual death. They expire before reaching a point of being accountable for sin before God. All aborted babies are in this category. Also there are many in the

special needs category with very limited abilities who may never be accountable for actions in this life. In all these cases, God alone knows who is, and who is not, guilty of accountable sin before Him. Scripture emphasizes that Judgment is based upon *accountable actions* - not upon inherited nature or circumstances. “*And I saw a great white throne and Him who sat upon it, from whose presence earth and heaven fled away, and no place was found for them. And I saw **the dead**, the great and the small, **standing** before the throne, and the books were opened; and another book was opened, which is the book of life; and the dead were judged from the things which were written in the books, **according to their deeds**. And the sea gave up the dead which were in it, and death and Hades gave up the dead which were in them; and they were judged, every one of them **according to their deeds**. And death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire. And if anyone’s name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire” (Rev 20:11-15). All passages relating to a destiny of Hell are contingent on *accountable* misdeeds. Also see Matthew 25: 31-46. Concerning dead infants, including all aborted babies, in 2Samuel 12:23, David understood his dead child to be in good standing before God. David knew he himself was destined for glory, and that his child had preceded him. Clearly, many individuals die before accountability (spiritual death) occurs. But, because we are in Adam (his physical descendants) we have *inherited* a mortal body which can be overtaken by hostile forces at any given time. ***Physically alive ... die physically ... then Paradise ... then Heaven - so, born once (or in pre-born life); die once.****

Physical Being (some pre-born, some born)/ Heaven. These are the same non accountable individuals just referenced, who will be here when Christ returns. All these individuals are in mortal bodies that must be changed. Their mortality will be swallowed up, in the twinkling of an eye by immortality. They will go directly to the new heavens and earth. ***Physically alive ... then Heaven - so, born once (or in pre-born life); never died.***

I think these are all the options.

Jesus once said, “... *everyone who lives and believes in Me **will never die**. Do you believe this?*” (Jn 11:26 - read 25 too!) But, the Bible also says, “*Precious in the sight of the Lord is **the death of his godly ones (saints)***” (Ps 16:15). So ... how does one reconcile these declarations? Well, when the Christian physically expires, *the body dies*, but the actual *person* does not. The actual person is ushered directly into God’s presence - forever freed from his/her mortal body. This imprisoning, weak, faulty, cocoon is abandoned. Additionally, the Christian is confirmed in personal righteousness at that same instant - never to sin again. This death is indeed a precious moment in the Lord’s sight. The raised, incorruptible body of the saint will be formed and reunited with that actual person on the Last Day. So, once born again, the Christian never *really* dies. The gift of eternal life precludes that possibility.

There may be another element as to why each saint’s death is precious in God’s sight. When each saint “*dies*,” the conclusion to this age is *one step closer*. The number of these “*deaths*” is finite. While I do hope the number is exceedingly large (with your name “*found written in the book of life*” [Rev 20:12-15]), there is a final tally. While God has many reasons for this age’s existence, the overarching reality of it is not one that delights Him. Even before the flood of Noah’s day, we find “*the Lord was sorry that He had made man on the earth, and He was grieved in His heart*” (Gen 6:5). It appears our world will again “*ripen*” to this same sorry state before He concludes it (See Mt 24:37-44 and Lk 17:26,27). The injurious impact of sin, on all aspects of this created order, is one He has been exceedingly patient with (Ro 9:22) - but has also determined to forever conclude. So, with the exit of each saint, not only will that saint no longer “*grieve the Holy Spirit*” (Eph 4:30), but this entire age is just that much closer to its consummation. This is “*precious*.”

A Potential Fly in the Ointment ... or Two ... or Three ... Maybe.

Fly one. The fallen angels are referred to as evil *spirits* all through Scripture. According to the material I have put forth, they should be called evil *souls*. My theory maintains they are *spiritually dead* because of their sins, but alive mentally, volitionally and emotionally (their *soul*). I'm not too concerned about this unraveling my case for a couple of reasons. For starters, the angels may have a completely different makeup, or essence, than us - in being and in relationship to God. They are other-dimensional as it stands anyway and their existence predates us. Indeed, their access to God (see Job 1 and 2), and their age may put them in a wholly different category in about every way. But, my other reason is as follows. Both the soul and the spirit are invisible entities. When Paul spoke of sin killing him, something in him (that made up the "I" of him) *died* (Ro 7:8-11). That same "thing" died in all of us who are declared by God as dead in our "trespasses and sins" (Eph 2:1). With that "I" dead, we are still clearly alive mentally, volitionally, and emotionally. Maybe it is our *soul* that dies with death one, and we are still *spiritually* alive - our *spirit* being our mind, will, and emotions. And because we sin in our mind, will, and emotion, we could then be seen as evil *spirits* - like the fallen angels - with our *soul* being dead. But if I have erred, it is a blunder in semantics and the substance of my case still stands. I still tend to stay with my original semantics for this reason. When Jesus spoke to Nicodemus about being born again, He said, "That which is born of flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is *spirit*" (Jn 3:6). I think the Spirit rebirths after His kind. He generates *spiritual* births. Also, Paul speaks of the Spirit "combining spiritual thoughts with spiritual words," making that one "spiritual" (1Cor 2:13-15). So, fallen angels as evil *spirits* are probably different from us in makeup and essence.

Fly two. I have said nothing about our "heart." So, what is that? Is it our inmost being? Our feelings? Our real self? Our spirit? Some things are just not defined anywhere in the Bible. All I do know is that when sin enters our existence *something* of us, or in us, dies. I still lean toward our spirit dying based on reasons given in the previous paragraph. But maybe our essence is more than three components. I have lumped the mind, heart, volition and emotions all into the soul. But it is possible these are all separate and distinct units inside of us, including the soul being its own invisible unit in making up our essence ... which leads to the third potential fly.

Fly three. It is risky to build a theological position from *one verse*. 1Thessalonians 5:23 is the only passage listing "the spirit, and the soul, and the body" in one place. But, these three parts are listed with the stated desire we be "sanctified *entirely*" and "preserved *complete*." The natural man is dead spiritually, yet is alive mentally, emotionally, volitionally, (and heart?). It seems reasonable to lump these together as the other unit - "the soul" (See Rev 20:12, Eph 2:1 and Ro 7:8-11). Maybe.

Death's Fate - Does Death Have an End?

Evolutionists say, "Death *possibly* has an end. If all life in the universe ceases to be, then death ends. But if life, on any level or locale, continues, then death also continues." The Biblical Creationist says, "Yes and no. For Christians, at Christ's return, death will die; 'The last enemy that will be abolished is death' (1Cor15:26). But for the unredeemed - angels and humans - the second death will be an eternal reality." Death's destiny is clearly disclosed in the Bible. But, does Jesus have this kind of power, authority and inclination, or is this just some kind of metaphysical dream? Paul stated it this way: "If we have only hoped in Christ in this life, we are of all men most to be pitied If the dead are not raised, 'let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we die'" (1Cor 15:19,32). So, if evolutionists are correct - then this is it and let's grab for all the gusto we can get! For Christians to have denied themselves indulgences into any area of desired pleasure - and to have suffered *persecution for a fairy tale* - well, of all humans, this is the most miserable of lots.

Obviously, these two systems totally disagree on death's origin, purpose, future, and fate. Both

views cannot be correct. Death is an extremely important issue. One's belief about death firmly plants a person in Biblical Creationism - or else in some version of a competing longevity model.

So, What About Those Who Hold a Hybrid Position - Part Evolution and Part Creationism?

The position I have adopted on the Genesis account is called, "*The Naive-Literal View*" in Systematic Theology circles. At the other end of the spectrum is the "*paganism*" of atheistic evolution. "*Hybridists*" are theologians who construct various scenarios using elements from Creationism *and* evolution. They take what they perceive to be the best of both sides, and meld the chosen elements into what they deem a coherent system. Basically, an unseen, guiding Hand is inserted into the evolutionary process in its billions of years of development. But, *when* was that Hand inserted? *Why* was it inserted? *What* was inserted? Is it still being inserted? And *whose* hand is it anyway? Questions ... questions

Hybridists begin by dismissing the Creation Account as a literal six day period and embrace a nuanced evolution - with the Creation Account possibly being some kind of symbolic material. What I have learned from these theists is similar to the rabbit-in-the-hat trick. When God is needed - pull Him out of the hat, but, when an embarrassment, stuff Him back in. These longevity model theists have introduced *supernatural arbitrariness* into a field of (supposed) empirical scientific study. These hybrid inventions violate the fundamentals of *both* evolution *and* Creationism. True evolutionists reject a floating hand of "*God*" dipping into, and out of, the origins or natural progression of our universe. This creates a muddled, twisted, mystical system with no reliable boundaries for systematic empirical research, data gathering, or theory forwarding.

All *theistic* evolutionists, or hybridizers, share this common ground: *death was an established reality long before Adam and Eve (or the first Homo sapiens) came on the scene*. Therefore, death, entering the world *through one man*, is nonsense (Ro 5:12). So, also the assertion that death is one's "*morally justified payment*" for personal sin (Ro 6:23). To tell Adam he would "*return to the ground*" is not a judgment, as he was heading there anyway - assuming there was an Adam in the first place.

Not only is the Bible's teaching about death rejected, but also the attendant curses leveled upon Adam and Eve. That material ... is just a story. At best, it is symbolic folklore possibly forwarding some "*Biblical Principles*." So, Luke, Paul, *and Jesus*, are in error when they hold Adam and/or Eve as real people portrayed in a genuine, historically accurate situation. But when Paul discusses the role of women in 1 Timothy 2:8-15, he bases his argument *on* Adam and Eve. If they are simply mythical, then his case falls apart. And Jesus' case for marriage fidelity in Matthew 19:3-12 becomes flawed. For many hybridizers, such historical "*error*" is enough to justify dismissing Paul's position on the role of women or Jesus' understanding about marriage and divorce. But some may still try to hold Paul's and Jesus' teaching together by saying this was "*innocent error*" as they were operating in their own time and didn't know any better. But aggressive opposition to such props will prevail every time.

Here are a Few of the Hybridist Theories

Some forward an "*Age-Day*" theism theory. Each day of the Creation Account is symbolic for an age of time. A more fanciful theory is the "*Pictorial Day*" theory. Each Creation day represents a "*topic*" of the created order - with no chronology considerations. Other hybridizers, believe God formed the original creation, wound it up, and walked away. Everything then evolved. Others believe in a more interventionist Creationism where God intervened at key moments to "*create*." This is sometimes referred to as "*Progressive Creation*." There are other nuanced theories.

Biblical Creationists (Fiat Creation, or The Naive-Literalist View), reject these as scientific versions of "*political correctness*." The professed wisdom of the hybridizer is neither scientifically *nor* theologically palatable. Evolutionists view the hybridizer as a *mentally* negative mutant and hope

he/she is not capable of reproduction - thus passing on the mental flaws. Creationists view the hybridizer as an “*intellectual*” who does not understand the basic tenants of Creationism or evolution. The hybridizer rejects what the Bible teaches about death, while at the same time embracing much of the plastic science forwarded by evolutionists. Creation Scientists have a growing body of work that argues for a young earth and universe. Hybridizers need to avail themselves to these materials - and then look at God’s Word again. I am not sure how much God will allow for disbelief of His Word - and things still be okay. Believing God is the substance of a saving faith.

One’s Physical Life in This Age

First, God takes full credit for the creation of all life forms. Nothing comes to life, or is alive, without His activity (Gen 1:11,12, 20-22, 24-28). Concerning human conception, God often stated He “*opened the womb*” and conception then took place (Gen 29:31, 30:22, 1Sam 1:19, Ps 127:3, etc.). Alternately, He sometimes “*closed (the) womb*” (1Sam 1:5,6). David flatly states, “***Thou didst weave me in my mother’s womb***” (Ps 139:13-16). *God is active in the womb*. Ecclesiastes 11:5 also speaks of His presence and activity in the womb. Any place that God is actively working in is a holy place, and unrighteous intrusions by sinners will elicit a violent response from Him. “*Vengeance is Mine. I will repay*” (Heb 10:30). Abortionists, and all complicit in this civil rights crime, have no idea what is rushing toward them. Justice delayed will not end in justice being denied. For a more detailed treatment of this topic, read, “*Abortion: How (and Why) Abortion Resides in the Weakest Form of Human Thought and Valuation.*” But for our purposes here, just know that God takes full responsibility, and credit, for the creation of each human life, and anything else that has life.

Next, God takes credit for *sustaining each one’s life*, and also for *all deliverances from death*. “*In Thy book they were all written, **the days** that were ordained for me, when as yet there was not one of them*” (Ps 139:16). “*God is to us a God of deliverances; and to God the Lord belong escapes from death*” (Ps 68:20). If you have had brushes with death (and you have obviously been spared), God says He is responsible for that deliverance. But this pertains to more than just *physical* close calls. Deliverance from spiritual death (death one), physical death (death two), or the second death (the second physical death, but the third death experience) - deliverance from any or all of these are escapes belonging to the Lord our God. When John fell like a dead man at the feet of Christ at the opening of the Revelation, Jesus told him, “*Do not be afraid; I am the first and the last, and the living One; and I was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore, **and I have the keys of death and of Hades***” (Rev 1:17,18). In the matters of life and death, and eternal life and death, Jesus is the Boss. That’s just the way it is. There are no votes or opinions on these matters that carry any weight or relevance.

Concerning *eternal life*, this is what we know. Eternal life *is a gift* - the Giver being God Himself (2Thess 2:16 and 1Jn 5:11). Jesus defined it this way. “*And **this** is eternal life, that they may know Thee, the only true God, and Jesus Christ who Thou hast sent*” (Jn 17:3). Knowing God automatically brings with it - eternal life! Eternal life is in the here and now, not in the distant future. It begins the moment the Holy Spirit takes up residence in, and seals, the one who believes the Gospel message. The Holy Spirit’s presence is referred to as a pledge, or down payment, of the coming inheritance (2Cor 1:22, 5:5, and Eph 1:13,14). When God gives one eternal life, *it cannot be taken away or lost*. That is an impossible contradiction. If you *have it* - then you will live forever and the life question is forever settled. It is impossible to have it - and then lose it! To *lose* eternal life? That is an oxymoron - a nonsensical, muddled mental knot. On the flip side, if you never had it, then you could not lose it. It is impossible to lose something you never had. You might *miss* something you never had, but you cannot *lose* something you never had.

Once a person becomes a Christian, the rest of this life is one in which the Christian sees

himself/herself as a pilgrim, or stranger, passing through this world - "home" being on the other side of this mortal life and age. "*For our citizenship is in heaven ...*" (Phil 3:20). At death, the Christian is welcomed by God into His presence (Ps 116:15 and Phil 1:21-23). The disembodied saint is then in Paradise (Lk 23:43), or Abraham's bosom (Lk 16:22) - two names for the same location. But there are two *embodied* saints there right now - Enoch and Elijah. On the Last Day, Jesus will reunite the saints with their body. But their physical body will have been changed, in that it will be immortal - "*the dead will be raised imperishable*" (1Cor 15:52).

When Christ returns, the Christians here will then be changed "*in the twinkling of an eye*" as "*this mortal must put on immortality*" (1Cor 15:53). In that moment, the confirmation of the Holy Spirit's indwelling presence will be seen by all. "*But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who indwells you*" (Ro 8:11). In that split second, what is mortal (our current flesh) will be "*swallowed up by life*" (2Cor 5:4). "*This mortal must put on immortality*" (1Cor 15:53). And once this reality has occurred, "*death is swallowed up in victory*" (1Cor 15:54).

In the coming ages, the Christian will be found to be 100% alive in every way possible. Our body will be *eternally immortal* - in complete dominion over every physical environment we might ever enter into. There is no telling what kind of environments we may be given to enjoy. Eternity is a long time for God to create pleasure grounds for us to interact in. Also, our emotions will be totally engaged in the circumstances in which we find ourselves. And those emotions will line up with God 100%. Mentally, not only will every thought be in full obedience to Christ forever (and we will be exceedingly thrilled about that), but we will also "*know in full*" just as we "*have been fully known*" (2Cor 10:5 and 1Cor 13:12). All synapses will be firing fully and righteously forever! Our wants will be in complete sync with God, and our spirit will be alive and we will be walking fully with our Creator. But here is what is going to be astounding about the coming existence. We will sense *no restraint* physically, emotionally, mentally, volitionally, or spiritually at any time *in any way* for all eternity. We will live in total liberty! "*Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty*" (2Cor 3:17). We will be fully active and aggressive *in life* - yet fully confirmed and established in righteousness. There will be no dark corners in us. So, *where* will we be? Well, let's take a cursory view of the coming state, and I will list a couple of passages you can review for more details if you are so inclined.

The New Environment

At God's return, "*the heavens will pass away with a roar and the elements will be destroyed with intense heat, and the earth and its works will be burned up The heavens will be destroyed by burning and the elements will melt with intense heat. But according to His promise, we are looking for a new heavens and a new earth, in which righteousness dwells*" (2Pet 3:10,12,13). In this new environment, "*there shall no longer be any death; there shall no longer be any mourning, or crying, or pain; the first things have passed away*" (Rev 21:4). Suffice it to say, this new and eternal state will be one in which the Christian is fully enveloped in the good things of God. To examine this coming state, see Revelation 21 and 22 and 1Corinthians 15:35-58.

Hell - Some Effects (plural) It Has Had On Me

I have had my share of objections to the Bible's teaching on Hell. One time, there was a man I felt I needed to share this material with. He was a recently retired world class body builder who had then given himself to a modest amount of wine - but full portions of women and song. He was very happy. He was genuinely enjoying the pleasures of life with no apparent down side. Some sin choices quickly destroy one's health and fortunes - and often land them in great trouble with the law. Drug

addicts come to ruin physically, emotionally, financially and legally in short order. But others, the smart sinners, can fully exercise their sin and live as kings and even cultural icons. Well, this body builder was closer to the latter camp. So, I was to talk to this cheery, whistling man about a destination only a heartbeat away from him - *about Hell?* I looked up toward Heaven and said, "*Lord, this is a great message to carry to my fellow man. What a great way to 'Win Friends and Influence People.'*" But, I have always known, that if I have any concern for another, I will ask God for opportunity to tell them the truth. The goal is for this to occur at the right time and in the right spirit. But even if my spirit is not right (like Jonah's), love still shares the truth. But, I have not always been thrilled to carry a message of good news *and* bad news - *extremely bad news*. But, will one embrace the good news if there is no knowledge of the bad news?

But, there is more unpleasant news. In our natural state, God says every person is *His* enemy (Ro 5:12). Now, when a person becomes a Christian, *that* hostility ends - but other hostilities arise. Jesus warned to "*count the cost*" before following Him (Lk 14:28). "*A pupil is not above his teacher*" (Lk 6:40). Indeed, *to be like the teacher* is the goal. The Teacher of this good news/bad news message was pulverized and nailed on chunks of wood until He expired. Any follower who leaves this life in a less violent fashion has been let off easy. "*For to you it has been granted for Christ's sake not only to believe in Him, but also to suffer for His sake*" (Phil 1:29). Good grief. So, here's how this works out. As a Caucasian male in the United States, I already have a multitude of enemies. When one becomes a Christian ... natural enemies do not disappear. Now I am a *Christian* Caucasian male in the United States. Not only do my natural enemies remain - *but now I pick up God's enemies!* The news just gets better and better, doesn't it? Actually, it is - when the alternative is considered. Which is better, to continue to have God as one's enemy (and ultimately fall into His hands), or to move into peace with God while adding His enemies? The maximum penalty His enemies can inflict is to torture and kill - but that's it. Jesus responded to such a scenario with this; "*My friends, do not be afraid of those who kill the body, and after that have no more that they can do. But I will warn you whom to fear: fear the One who after He has killed has authority to cast into hell; yes, I tell you, fear Him!*" (Lk 12:4,5). The author of Hebrews echoes this sentiment. On the heels of discussing the judgment and vengeance of God, he states, "*It is a terrifying thing to fall into the hands of the living God*" (Heb 10:31). God promises to deliver us from all enemies - unless **He** is our enemy.

When I was on staff at a Christian Drug Rehabilitation Center, we had one particular client who persistently asked a lot of sincere questions about Christianity. One day, the Director and I were talking with him, and the Director asked him, "*Lewis, why are you so interested in wanting to know how to become a Christian?*" The answer was immediate. "*I want to be saved from God!*" The Director and I looked at each other, shrugged our shoulders and laughed. That was a very sane response. Each person must decide if He means business about this sin stuff *and* if He has the power to enforce His will. One must decide if these are bluffs and threats or if these Biblical materials are *warnings* of what He is willing and able to do. I believe the latter.

By the way, I did talk to the happy, whistling, whoremongering body builder about the end of the path he was prancing down. That may prove to be one of the best things I have ever done.

God will mete out justice in a full, fair, and accurate way as only He can. I know that evildoers will be dealt with at the time and place of His choosing. "*Do not fret yourself because of evildoers, or be envious of the wicked; for there will be no future for the evil man, and the lamp of the wicked will be put out*" (Pr 24:20). In many situations and events, this certain knowledge carries relief. But when I get a glimpse of what Hell is going to be - fear *for them* often overpowers all else. I find myself praying for them - that God might change them (like He did me) - and deliver them *from Himself!* There are many outside of Christ I do have great respect and admiration for, and I long for their conversion. And I am

not longing for their conversion because I see *“their potential”* for impacting this world. I simply want to see them in a safe relationship with the God who created them. When David was asking God to deliver him from wicked men, he asked to be delivered *“from men, whose portion in life is of the world”* (Ps 17:14). If they are not converted, this life will be all the life they ever experience. This is an exceedingly bad deal. This life is too short with too much heartache for this to be all one will have.

In my deeper times, when I get a clearer picture of what Hell is - I find myself terrified. I am not terrified about my destiny, but my first thoughts are toward my two children. One time, when my oldest was a toddler, she burned her hand on the metal shade of a little high-intensity lamp. She cried and cried and kept trying to shake the burning off her hand. I tried to comfort her, but she kept crying until she wore herself out and fell asleep on my lap. Later that day, as I got in my car to go to work, all I could think of was my precious daughter leaving this life outside of Christ, on fire from head to toe, trying to shake off the flames of Hell. But there will be no relief for eternity. This is the most dreadful scenario one can possibly contemplate. All I could do was stop everything and bow myself as low as I could go - and beg God to spare her from such a fate. I now have a second daughter, and even now I beg You, O Lord God, Creator of the heavens and the earth, please, O God Almighty, have mercy on my two children. Please, in Your wrath, remember mercy. My dear readers, when the reality of this teaching hits me, it floors me and I not only pray for my children, but others start coming to mind - their friends, others in my family, customers I serve, etc. - and I beg God for mercy upon them. But here is the worst part. I know that Hell is even worse than my deepest understandings of it.

Conclusion

Herein lies *one* problem for evolutionists. To them, much of the material in this Ebook is mythology of the highest order alternately causing laugh or scorn. *“How can anyone actually believe such fanciful claims? Claims of Hades and Paradise. Claims of Heaven and Hell. Claims of Jesus rising from the dead, ascending into heaven, and scheduled to return to earth. Claims to then raise all bodies from the dead, reunite those bodies with their disembodied spirits and/or souls, and then send those immortal people to a place of eternal torment or eternal bliss. What a joke!”* The evolutionist has a hard time listening to Creation Science *when this other material is hitched to it!*

But here is another root of the evolutionist’s problems. There is an important New Testament passage that applies to any faith community and *evolutionists are indeed a community of faith*. To believe matter is eternal, and a Big Bang randomly created our inorganic ecosystem, and these inorganics spontaneously gave birth to living matter, and those organics were birthed with a fully operational reproductive system (that could also accommodate positive mutations so evolution actually occurs) - well, no religion requires a faith this massive. The foundations of their system go way beyond science - whether in *“ogeny”* studies referenced earlier, or red flags I brought up, or assumptions they make about current natural law. They **believe** a lot of stuff that has no empirical science behind it. *“For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but wanting to have their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves **teachers in accordance with their own desires**; and will turn away their ears from the truth and will turn aside to myths”* (2Tim 4:3,4). Most people, want to believe what they want to believe. They find security and stability in their chosen faith - and only listen to teachers with whom they basically agree. This is a natural human inclination. In this case, they only want to hear from scientists who reinforce, or further, their chosen *faith positions* (this last word is plural). They will not even examine, much less entertain the deductions and conclusions of Creation Scientists *who are looking at the same scientific data!* But there is even a deeper reason for this refusal to honestly engage Creation Scientists.

Let's say an evolutionist is persuaded by the arguments of Creationist Scientists that evolution is indeed dead. Where can they turn? If *their science* refutes their evolutionary faith, *and yet the claims of the Bible appear as a fairy tale* - where can they go? To turn away from *both faiths* is a turn to a black hole. Who can turn from something (even error) - and happily walk *into nothing*? That is one reason the work of Creation Scientists is just ignored. Evolutionists cannot mentally or emotionally entertain any *real challenges* to their faith. And it should *not* be expected they would be able to do so. That is why outside forces must be marshaled if competing ideas are to be made available in the arena of knowledge and genuine inquiry. For example, academia should *require* that Creation Science materials be taught alongside evolutionary thought, with points and counterpoints being exchanged from both sides, issue by issue. I am quite certain many of you have no idea that Creation Scientists address all the same subjects evolutionists do in great detail. Whether astronomy, geology, or the life sciences, Creationists study origins as well as current processes. It is also my guess you have little idea of the positions they forward in all these areas with their scientific proofs and hypotheses.

Actually, I believe evolution is more about resisting Creationism than it is a real commitment to real science. I once asked an unsaved, intellectual anti-Bible friend this question. "*Why do you think there are so many 'scholars' and 'scientists' who have set themselves to disproving the Bible - even if in but one point?*" His reply was simple with no hesitation. "*Well, if you can once and for all disprove the Bible, you will become instantly and forever famous!*" This effort is like an ant attacking a hundred foot high wall of steel that is twenty feet thick, and declaring, "*I am going to chew you up and spit you out!*" The steel wall would not even bother responding to the ant.

As a Creationist, I believe things I did not see and cannot prove. I did not see God create in six days, and I did not see an originally pristine earth free of death. I cannot prove death is a judgment of God in response to sin. And I cannot prove any of the future assertions either. But, you cannot disprove these things either. You might not believe them, but you cannot disprove them. The other option is to believe in a system that life itself, in all its forms, argues against. That is the evolutionary theory. The faith of the Biblical Creationist is steadfastly consistent with itself. God is eternal, He made matter, and He created an inorganic system capable of sustaining life. He then somehow infused life into collections of inorganic materials. For the Creationist, God is behind the universal ecosystem and is solely responsible for the invention of life.

But here is another Bible assertion I cannot currently prove. "*There is no wisdom and no understanding, and no counsel against the Lord*" (Pr 21:30). None that will prevail anyway. Every speculation contrary to God will be forever destroyed. All holding such opinions and *beliefs* (errant faith) will be displayed *as fools* for all to see. This will occur on the Last Day - the great and terrible day of the Lord. It will be like a huge tidal wave that had been warned of ... but is now seen. It will break over everything. What seemed to be safe ground to the evolutionist will be forever inundated. It is my hope God will use points raised in this Ebook like a series of small breakers washing up on the evolutionist's beach - eroding some of that beach into the Ocean of God. But even if God does not allow these small breakers to wash anything into the Sea of Life, the tidal wave is still on the way. He will not allow the Land of Death to continue. Its ideas, practices and beliefs *cannot* live on. That in itself is an oxymoron. This is not a warning of *what might come* ... it is a warning of *what is coming*. I can't stop it ... you can't stop it. I didn't create it ... you didn't create it. The Coming Tidal Wave is an act of God. It originates in Him, is directed by Him, and will occur at the exact instant He has determined. We have always been out of this decision making loop.

Well, we have covered a lot of ground. If anything I have written benefits you in any way, I will be greatly pleased - even if I never know it on this side. My main hope is that you come to peace on the issues of life and find yourself on solid ground. Death loses. It's a loser. That's it.

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