

Morning Sermon, Sunday, 11 November 2012, Julian Hardyman

# Genesis and science:

## The controversies, the church, and the world

1. Science and Christian Faith – how do they relate in general?
2. Genesis and Science – how do they relate.....
  - .....on timescales?
  - .....on biological processes?
3. Christians and the world: how do we relate?
4. Christians who disagree: how do we relate?

### **Selected books on Genesis and Science representing a variety of viewpoints:**

#### **Young Earth Creationist:**

*The New Creationism* Paul Garner  
*Faith, Form and Time* Kurt Wise

#### **Old Earth Creationist:**

*God's Undertaker* John Lennox  
*Science and Faith: Friends or Foes?* John Collins

#### **Intelligent Design:**

*Darwin on Trial* Philip Johnson  
*Signature in the cell* Stephen Meyer

#### **Theistic Evolutionist:**

*Reclaiming Genesis* Melvin Tinker  
*Creation or Evolution?* Denis Alexander

#### **A very fine overview of the whole debate:**

*Origins: Christian perspectives on creation, evolution and intelligent design*  
Deborah and Loren Haarsma

### **Scriptures and other quotes referred to by Julian**

As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will never cease. Genesis 8:22

Solomon spoke about plant life, from the cedar of Lebanon to the hyssop that grows out of walls. He also spoke about animals and birds, reptiles and fish. From all nations people came to listen to Solomon's wisdom, sent by all the kings of the world, who had heard of his wisdom. 1 Kings 4:33-34

Huram was filled with wisdom and understanding and with knowledge to do all kinds of bronze work. 1 Kings 7:14

Since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities – his eternal power and divine nature – have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse. Romans 1:20

One of the things that flows directly from a strong doctrine of creation and the [First Great Commission] is an appreciation of science. God has revealed himself through two books: the book of Scripture and the book of nature. Of the latter book, the psalmist says, "The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims his handiwork" (Ps. 19:1). Science is a systematic way to "read" the book of nature. *Calvin Seminary website*

"When the book of science appears to conflict with the book of Scripture, Christians reread and study both books to see where they are misreading. Ultimately, these two books can't contradict each other because God is the author of both."

In six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but he rested on the seventh day. Exodus 20:11

'The Genesis account is a mixed genre that feels like history and really does give some historical particulars. At the same time it is full of demonstrable symbolism. Sorting out what is symbolic and what is not is very difficult.' DA Carson

Genesis 1:1-2:3		Genesis 2: 4-25	
Heavens, earth, waters	1-2		
Light	3		
Sky	6-8		
Dry land	9-10	Dry land, rivers	5-6
Plants	11-12	Man	7
Sun, moon, stars	14-17	Plants	8-9
Sea creatures, birds	20-21	Land animals, birds	19
Land animals	24-25	Woman	20-22
Human beings	26-27		

The Earth was SHAPELESS	EMPTY
<b>Day One</b> The separation of light and darkness	<b>Day Four</b> The creation of the lights to rule the day and the night.
<b>Day Two</b> The separation of the sea to form the sky and the sea.	<b>Day Five</b> The creation of the birds and fish to fill the sky and sea.
<b>Day Three</b> The separation of waters from the dry land and the creation of plants.	<b>Day Six</b> The creation of animals and humans to fill the land and eat the plants.