



DOES SCIENCE CONTRADICT THE BIBLE?

Kevin Krosley | 7/3/2022 | 2 Timothy 3:16, Romans 1:20, Psalm 19:1-2, Acts 17:22-27

1. This is our second week in our series where we will be looking at some fascinating questions, all submitted by members of the congregation. Today we look at the question, “Does science contradict the Bible?” Kevin started the message by giving multiple choices to answer that question.
 - a. Absolutely not, in fact they can not contradict each other
 - b. Yes, they’re diametrically opposed
 - c. Actually, I’m not sure
 - d. All of the above

What are your thoughts on each of these answers? What do you think is the most important aspect of each possible answer?

2. In what ways do you connect personally with the topic of faith and science?
3. *Evangelical Convictions*¹, a book about the EFCA Statement of Faith, lists six beliefs that are dogma or doctrine. They are:
 - a. God is the Creator of all things out of nothing (ex nihilo)
 - b. God pronounced his creation "very good"
 - c. God created with order and purpose
 - d. God is the sovereign ruler over all creation which, by his personal and particular providence, he sustains
 - e. God created the first human beings--the historical Adam and Eve--uniquely in his image
 - f. Through Adam and Eve’s sin all humanity along with this created order is now fallen

Why do you think these six beliefs are considered essential to a faithful understanding of scripture and creation?

4. *Evangelical Convictions*¹ also addresses the more controversial issues around creation with the following statement:

"Though all Evangelical Christians are united in the conviction that God is the Creator of all things, they have been divided over how God created—how long it took and what process he may have used. What is the nature of the “days” of Genesis 1? Most through church history have taken these “days” in a straightforward, literal way and have affirmed a creation in six twenty-four hour periods. Others contend that “day” in Scripture can refer to a longer period of time, and that geologic ages can be subsumed in the word. Still others believe that in using this literary form, the biblical author was not intending to give a description of the mechanics of creation at all. The creation week of Genesis 1 is a literary device which itself makes important points but does not connect much with extra-textual historical referents—that is, it is not intended to provide a guide for scientific accounts of cosmic development. One form of this approach contends that God’s six days of work followed by a day of rest offer an analogy to a human week of work rather than a literal identity. In support they point to the endless duration of the seventh “day,” which provides the rationale for the command of the Sabbath (cf. Exod. 20:8-11). To be sure, Genesis 1 expresses truth about God as Creator and his creation, but because of the uncertainty regarding the meaning and literary form of this text and the lack of Evangelical consensus on this issue, our Statement does not require a particular position on the mechanics of creation."

In what ways can taking dogmatic positions on issues that are open to different interpretations create problems for others? How can we get better at practicing intellectual humility?

5. Pray for those students and scientists who you know. Pray that their study of science will become a lens for seeking and drawing near to the creator.

¹ [Evangelical Convictions: A Theological Exposition of the Statement of Faith of the EFCA](#)