

## WAR OF THE WORLDVIEWS #3

### “The Most Important Verse in the Bible”

#### I. Welcome to the War of the Worldviews!

##### A. What is a Worldview?

1. A worldview is simply how we “see” the world.

**“A worldview is a set of beliefs which define the ways we understand reality.”**

**Freddy Davis**

2. Jesus had worldviews in mind in the Sermon on the Mount...

**“The eye is the lamp of the body. If your eyes are good, your whole body will be full of light. But if your eyes are bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light within you is darkness, how great is that darkness!”**

**Matthew 6:22-23 NIV**

a. We see the world through our eyes, our “spiritual” eyes or our worldview; whether “good” or “bad”.

3. Our worldview affects *everything*, whether our “whole body” is full of light or darkness.

**“A worldview is the total of answers people give to the most important questions in life.”**

**Ronald H. Nash**

4. You can locate a worldview by how people answer the really important questions...

- **Who am I? Where did I come from?**
- **What about this world? Where did it come from?**
  - **Does life have any purpose?**

5. When we are “born again”, God gives us the foundation for a *biblical worldview*; a new way to think; a new way to see the world and *everything* in it.

**“Instead of viewing Christianity as a collection of theological pieces to be believed or debated people should approach it as a conceptual system, as a total world and life-view.”**

**Ronald H. Nash**

6. The problem is no one ever told us that. So we live a limited version of the Christian life because we never knew job #1 for the believer is **TO DEVELOP A BIBLICAL WORLDVIEW.**

## **B. So Where Do We Begin?**

1. Obviously, if we’re going to have a *biblical* worldview, we have to begin with the *Bible*!

**“A worldview is a set of formulated presuppositions.”**

**Gary DeMar**

- a. A Christian “presupposes” that the Bible is the Word of God.
- b. We presuppose that it is true; God is speaking.

2. Next question: “But where do I begin in the Bible?” The obvious answer is to BEGIN at the BEGINNING!

3. We begin to develop a biblical worldview with the beginning of the Bible, with the 1<sup>st</sup> verse of the Bible, which also happens to be the most important verse in the Bible!

**“In the beginning, God created the heaven and the earth.”**

**Genesis 1:1**

a. Amazing! So simple a child can understand it; so profound you can spend the rest of your life meditating on what it really means!

QUESTION: “Wait a minute! There are 31,102 verses in the Bible. How can you say this is the most important verse?”

ANSWER:” Yes, there are 31,102 verses in the Bible And every one of them is important because they are the Word of God. And yet, I believe this verse is the most important of all.”

QUESTION: “Why?”

ANSWER; Because if THIS verse is true, if there is a Sovereign, Omniscient, Omnipotent, all-powerful Being called God Who created everything we can see in the earth and in the universe, and created it all out of nothing, then how could I ever doubt that ALL THE REST of what the Bible says MUST BE TRUE!

4. Look at the 1<sup>st</sup> 3 words...

**In the beginning God...  
Genesis 1:1**

- The Bible presupposes that there is a God
- He existed before “the beginning” because in the beginning He was already there!
- And “He created the heavens and the earth”-which means that all I can see anywhere I look was made out of “nothing”!

**“The Bible assumes God’s existence. There is no attempt to prove His existence.”  
Gary DeMar**

5. Remember how we learned that all worldviews consist of a set of “presuppositions”, elementary assumptions within us that affect how we see things? For the Christian, Genesis 1:1 would be an “ultimate presupposition”.

**“An ultimate presupposition is a belief over which no other takes precedence.”  
John M. Frame, The Doctrine of the Knowledge of God**

6. There is nothing more basic to developing a biblical worldview than to have the ultimate presupposition that Genesis 1:1 is absolute truth. Literally everything else is built on this.

**“The Christian worldview begins with the belief in a Personal God who creates and upholds all things.”  
Gary DeMar**

7. My failures in witnessing to the lost far outnumber my successes. But I did learn that a good way to get started with some people is to ask them if they believe in Genesis 1:1. If they say “No”, it won’t do much good to start talking to them about Jesus. But if they say “Yes”, I have a great place to start with them!

- a. “If you believe that, why can’t you believe all the rest?”
- b. “If you do not believe that, how can I talk to you about Jesus?”

**"If I told you earthly things and you do not believe, how shall you believe if I tell you heavenly things?"**

**John 3:12 NASB**

- c. Genesis 1:1 tells us of earthly things. If you do not believe that, how can I speak to you about being spiritually born again?
- d. Believing Genesis 1:1 is the presupposition for believing John 3:3!

8. This is why Genesis 1:1 becomes the most important verse in the Bible; faith in the beginning is the basis for faith in all else that follows.

9. So the greatest enemy of the biblical worldview would be any worldview that opposes the truth of Genesis 1:1!

### **C. It's A War of the Worldviews**

1. Charles Colson, in his book “How Now Shall We Live”, says...

**“The most significant clash of worldviews is not between traditional religions or cultures; it is between classic Christian theism and naturalism.”**

**Charles Colson**

- a. He defines what he means...

**“Theism is the belief that there is a transcendent God who created the universe; naturalism is the belief that natural causes alone are sufficient to explain everything that exists.”**

**Chuck Colson**

2. Naturalism is better known today as “Evolution”, or “Darwinism”, after Charles Darwin, an English biologist who wrote **“Origin of the Species” in 1859.**

- Charles Darwin, (1809-1892, was an English biologist best known for his theory that all species of life have descended over time from common ancestors in a process called “natural selection”.

**“Charles Darwin set forth the concept that all biological life came from simpler forms by a process called ‘the survival of the fittest’.”**

**Francis Schaeffer**

3. Evolution is a direct contradiction of the Bible:

- The Bible states God created all the species and designed each to reproduce “after its kind”
- Darwin’s theory declared all living creatures are in a perpetual state of evolving into higher forms; that even man himself descended from lower forms of life

4. **The warfare between Creationism and Evolution has been going on ever since.**

5. Remember that these are actually 2 *worldviews*; they both have religious implications because they are both “faith systems”!

**“The belief that God created the world out of nothing and the belief that the world is uncreated are both *faith propositions*. Neither can be proved scientifically because no one was there when it happened, except God, of course.”**

**Gary DeMar**

6. It takes faith to believe Genesis 1:1.

**Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the Word of Gods, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.**

**Hebrews 11:3**

7. Evolutionists make fun of Christians who have faith that an all-powerful all-wise God created the world out of nothing...

**BUT DOESN'T IT TAKE MORE FAITH TO BELIEVE MAN CAME FROM MONKEYS???**

8. Always remember this! Worldviews are all “faith systems”!

**“Evolutionism and Creationism both require faith. It’s just a matter of where you choose to place that faith”. Dr. Ben Carson**

## **D. Darwinism is Deadly**

1. Darwin is deadly because the foundational presupposition of his theory removes God from the Creation equation.

a. The Bible says God created the heavens and the earth “ex nihilo”, a Latin term that means “out of nothing.” But Rene Descartes, the father of existentialism says...

**“Nothing can come from nothing.”  
Rene Descartes**

b. The bible says God is Spirit; but the naturalist will not believe unless he sees God.

**“I have been out in space and I did not see God; therefore, there is no God.”  
Yuri Gargarin, Russian Cosmonaut**

(If he had stepped outside his space suit he would have met God soon enough)

c. Atheist Carl Sagan was considered the most outstanding expert on the universe in this generation, and producer of the popular “Cosmos” series on Public Television...

**“The cosmos is all there is, or ever was, or ever will be.”  
Carl Sagan**

(He died in 1996 so I’m sure he knows better now)

2. Some of you may be offended at this; but what really *ought* to offend you are worldview systems that deny God and ridicule the Bible!

3. The American Christian Church, by and large has given up fighting this war of 2 worldviews. Stupid Christians think that you can’t be a real scientist and believe in the Bible story at the same time. But history proves them wrong!

**Consider Sir Isaac Newton**

- The Wordbook Encyclopedia: “One of the greatest names in the history of human thought
- Newton said that over an 18 month period, the Holy Spirit revealed to him the law of gravity, the science of spectrum analysis and the branch of mathematics known as calculus!

**“This most beautiful system of the sun, planets, and comets, could only proceed from the counsel and dominion of an intelligent Being. This Being governs all things, not as the soul of the world but as Lord over all.”**

**Sir Isaac Newton**

And so many other scientists of brilliant mind agree....

William Herschel, the 19<sup>th</sup> century astronomer who discovered the planet Uranus:

**“The universe is God’s handiwork. The undevout astronomer must be mad.”**

**William Herschel**

German scientist Max Planck, winner of the Nobel Prize in 1918 for the discovery of quantum physics...

**“All matter originates and exists by a force. We must assume that behind this force is the existence of a conscious and intelligent Mind. This Mind is the matrix of all matter.”**

**Max Karl Ernst Ludwig Planck**

Sir Nevill Mott, 1977 Nobel Prize winner in Physics...

**“I believe in God, Who can respond to prayers, to whom we can give trust, and without whom life on this earth would be without meaning, a tale told by an idiot.”**

**Sir Nevill Mott, 1977 Nobel Prize Winner in Physics**

Atomic Energy Commission physicist T.N. Thamisian...

**“Scientists who go about teaching that evolution is a fact of life are great con-men and the story they are telling may be the greatest hoax ever. In explaining evolution, we have not one iota of fact.”**

**Dr. T.N. Tahmisian**

Dr. Werner Von Braun, considered the father of rocket science, who led the team that put an American in space....

**“Manned space flight has opened a tiny door for viewing the awesome reaches of space. An outlook through this peephole only confirms our belief in the certainty of its Creator.”**  
**Dr. Werner Von Braun**

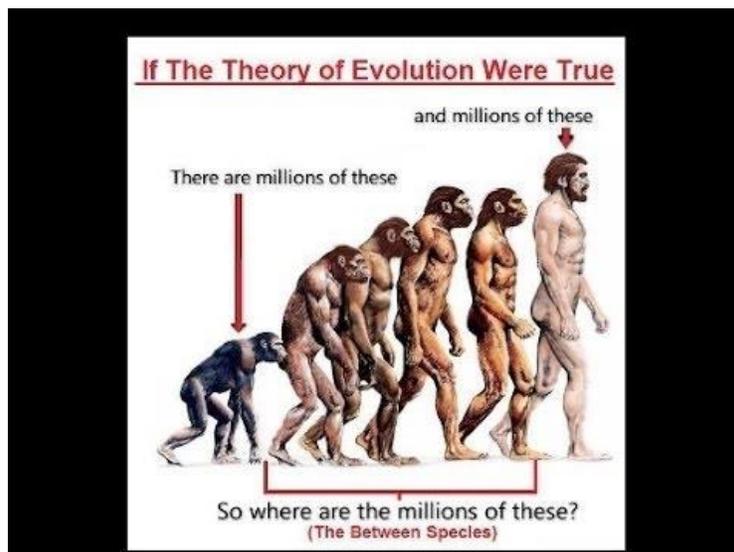
4. “OK, enough already, Pastor Ray! But why then are so many scientists on the evolution side of the battle?” Good question! I found this quote from a scientist committed to evolution, even though he knows it’s never been proven...

Sir Arthur Keith, Scottish anthropologist, Professor at the Royal College of Surgeons of England, dedicated evolutionist and an expert in the study of human fossils...

**“Evolution is unproven and unprovable. We believe it because it is the only alternative to special creation, and that is unthinkable.”**  
**Sir Arthur Keith**

5. At least he is an HONEST evolutionist. He admits he believes in a theory that has never been proved, *nor can ever be proved*. But he *chooses* to believe it anyway *because he cannot accept the 1<sup>st</sup> verse in the Bible!*

6. Evolution is a hoax! The “missing link is still missing”! Look at this:



7. Evolution is a house of cards! The only thing holding it up is Christians who cave in on creationism; those of us who try to make peace where there can be no peace!

### III. Conclusion

#### A. Practical Application

1. The Psalmist once asked...

**If the foundations are destroyed, what can the righteous do?**

**Psalm 11:3**

**a. This is a rhetorical question with an obvious answer...NOTHING!**

2. Genesis 1:1 is the *foundational cornerstone* of the whole Bible. If we lose this battle, we lose the war.

Prayer

Help us, Lord, to see as you see; and help those who cannot see. Forgive us for giving up the good ground, the high ground that holds you as Creator and Maker of all things!

Amen

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