**R863 Rumination for 8th August, 2021 by K.C. Ung**

The **T**heme: **Can the Creator of All Things Die?** [berita-bethel-ung.com](http://www.berita-bethel-ung.com/)

The **T**ext: *All things were made by Him; and without Him was not any thing made that was made.* **Jn. 1:3**
The **T**hots:

1. **All Things Were Created by God.**
2. God Created All Things **N**ew from **N**othing Gen. 1:1

*In the beginning God* ***created*** *the heaven and the earth.*

1. The **C**reating: *Created* is *bārāʾ* = to create out of nothing, **F**ormed **F**rom what was new and perfect.
2. The **C**reator: The word *bārāʾ* is used throughout the Bible only with God as its Subject.

“*God”* occurs at least 35 times in Gen. ch. 1.

* **Without God, there would be no Creation – Evolution is out of the Question!!**
1. The **C**ause: the medium of **C**reation was by His Word – *And God* *said….* 8 (+2) occ. in Gen. ch. 1
2. The **C**o-**C**reator – **C**hrist, the Word was with God then:

Jesus (the Word) was with God creating all things in the beginning.

1. *In the beginning,* ***God*** *created….* Gen. 1:1
* “***God***” is Heb. *ʾelōhîm,* plural suggesting God, the Father, the Son and the Spirit?
* Cf. *And* ***God*** *said, Let* ***Us*** *make man in* ***Our*** *image, after* ***Our*** *likeness*. Gen. 1:26
1. *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.* Jn. 1:1

*All things were made by Him; and without Him was not any thing made that was made.* Jn. 1:3

1. But God **M**ade **M**an from the Dust of the Earth. Gen. 2:7
2. *The LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground –*

He was **P**recisely formed; not **P**rogressively **E**volved!

1. *and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life –* Man was a Living **P**erson, not **P**artly alive.
2. *and man became a living soul –* Man was a **P**erfect **P**ersonality with body, soul and spirit; not in **P**arts.
3. God’s creation was **P**erfect and He rested: Gen. 1:31; 2:1-3
4. ***G****od saw every thing that He had made…behold, it was very* ***G****ood. And the evening and the morning were the sixth day…God blessed the seventh day…in it he had rested from all His work.*
5. And God **F**ormed Woman **F**rom Adam. Gen. 2:22

*The rib, which the LORD God had taken from man* [*ādām*] *made He a woman,*

*and brought her unto the man* [*ādām*]*.*

1. God **M**ade **M**an and Woman in His Image. Gen. 1:26
2. Man's **D**escription – *God created man in His own image, in the image of God created He him.*
3. Man's **D**elineation – *Male and female created He them*.
4. Man's **D**uty – *Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish [fill] the earth"* Gen. 1:28
5. Man's **D**ominion – *Earth... subdue it; and have* ***D****ominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth*.
6. Man's **D**iet – *I have given you every herb bearing seed... every tree, in the which is the fruit of a tree... to you it shall be for meat [food]* Gen. 1:29
* "***God saw everything that He had made, and, behold, it was very good***" Gen. 1:31
1. **All things were made through Jesus. Jn. 1:3**
2. All things were **C**reated by Him [**C**hrist] as with God.
3. *All things were made by Him; and without Him was not any thing made that was made*
4. *God…has…spoken to us by His Son…through whom also He made the worlds;* Heb. 1:1
5. *For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers.*

*All things were created through Him and for Him. And He is before all things,* Col 1: 16a

1. *and in Him all things* ***C****onsist.* Col. 1:16b
2. **Yet No thing could Save Man from His Sin.**

**The Word, the Creator, the Christ Had to be made Man to Save Man from Sin.**

1. *And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us* [Man – His **C**reature] …Jn. 1:14a
2. Man was made a **L**ittle **L**ower than the angels but higher than His **C**reation. Heb. 2:6-7
	1. *What is man, that Thou art mindful of him?... Thou madest him a little lower than the angels;*

*Thou crownedst him with glory and honour, and didst set him over the works of Thy hands:*

1. Jesus was **M**ade **M**an for the Suffering of death on the **C**ross. Heb. 2:9

*But we see Jesus, Who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death...*

 *That He by the grace of God should taste death for every man.*

1. Jesus **H**umbled **H**imself to take on **H**uman form and became obedient unto death. Phi. 2:7f, NRSV

[He] *emptied Himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death— even death on a cross.*

* **The Creator of Man was the Christ Who died on the Cross to save Man!**

*When I survey the wondrous cross On which the Prince of glory died,*

 *My richest gain I count but loss, And pour contempt on all my pride.* Isaac Watts

**REFLECTIONS FOR THE WEEK R. 863**

1. **Creationism vs. Evolution: Either dust or lightning started it all.**

**Thesis:***Evolution and Creationism are controversial issues that scientists and theologians*

*are trying to find a common ground to explain how it all started.*

**Introduction:** *Creationism and the study of evolution has been a controversial debate for decades now,*

*leaving many people on one side or the other.* ***Creationism*** *argues that faith should take precedent over science, basing its beliefs on one book for guidance, the Bible. God created the earth and everything on it, taking six days.* ***Evolutionists*** *believe that the earth is much older than the Bible describes, and that plants, animals, and humans are a result of a natural progression called evolution. There were no common ancestors (Adam and Eve) from whom we came; it was a natural selection process, stemming from inorganic compounds and nature. For many people in the scientific world, it is hard to take a final stance on this issue since there is evidence of evolution, but that is where faith in God and what God has done comes into effect. According to a great medieval philosopher, Moses Maimonides, “conflicts between science and the Bible arise from either a lack of scientific knowledge or a defective understanding of the Bible” (Schroeder)..*

*This paper will reveal some topics that these two groups debate about, along with their viewpoints…*

See Source of Reference: <https://www.goshen.edu/bio/Biol410/bsspapers02/alyssa.htmor>

**Conclusion:**

**Creationism and evolution** *have two very different viewpoints of how the earth and human beings began.*

**Creationism** *is based on the belief that the Bible is a credible source, which gives the story of Creation. In the span of six days (24 hour days), God created the heavens and the earth, the sun, moon, stars, and all of the creatures of the earth. On the very last day, God created Adam, a human being in God’s image to rule over the earth. Creationists believe that the earth is young, and that organisms are fixed, every organism that we see today is the same organism that God created a few thousands of years ago. Adam and Eve are the beginning of the human race, and we are separated from every other species by the soul that God gave us. Creationists say that those who believe in evolution are immoral. “Most frequent is the charge that evolutionists are ‘pompous and arrogant, just the kind of people that the First Amendment was written to protect us against’, and that they display ‘an academic arrogance frequently typical of the nation’s scientific educational establishment’” (Toumey, 95)*

**Evolutionists** *believe that human beings are a result of evolution, beginning with simple molecules to today’s modern person. The earth was made over a long period, beginning 4.5 billion years ago. Life began with inorganic molecules, and with the help of nature, became viable living organisms. Each time period of the earth had its own characteristics with different organisms and life forms making that period unique, and leaving behind traces with fossils. Animals and plant life evolve, becoming more fit for the environment. Human beings have also evolved along the way from our primate ancestors into today’s modern humans, but we are not the final product. We too, will change over time, becoming a different species in future generations. Along with evolution, there are theories such as the Big Bang theory, and critiques of how the Bible views time compared to geological time. Evolutionists believe that God was not the founder of the earth, instead it was a natural phenomenon, beginning with inorganic molecules evolving into today’s modern person.*

**The Author’s stand:** *I agree with both arguments to a certain degree. As a scientist, it is hard to discard tangible evidence that shows life has evolved across species. Yet, as a Christian, my life is centered on faith in God. I believe that God created life, but I believe God did it in a way that uses evolution. I believe that God created everything in six days, but that each day lasted millions of years, with different species and life forms evolving throughout that era. I believe that God structured the world so that there could be evolution. I think that species have to adapt to changing environments, and God made each species of organisms so that it could survive each change that takes place. I do not necessarily believe that human beings are the finalé; I think that we will change over the decades evolving into higher specie. I do not believe in the Big Bang Theory or that life stemmed from inorganic molecules. God started life, and then gave nature freedom to develop. If God did not like the outcome, it was destroyed by means of a natural disaster, such as the asteroid ending the life of the dinosaurs or by the Noah’s flood. If it was good, then things stayed, and life continued. This is a hard topic to take a definite stand on since faith is abstract, yet a way of life for Christians, and science is concrete. There is a need for cooperation between the two worlds though since there are Christians in science, but it takes one to look at both sides to decide on what one’s own theory is on the beginning of life and human evolution.*

*“Reconciliation does not require that every scientist becomes a believer, or that every believer embrace all aspects of science.  It will be complete when we accept the need to read and understand the Bible on the Bible’s terms…and when scientists, having already discovered that there is a limit to knowledge, admit that science is powerless to confirm or deny a purpose for life” (Schroeder, 21).*

Above is a thesis paper entitled: “Creationism vs. Evolution: Either dust or lightning started it all”

By Alyssa Beck presented in a Senior Seminar on December 2, 2002.

Do you agree with the author’s stand or do you prefer to take a stand for the Word and the Word of Life? Why? **REFLECT.**

1. Or would you take the stand of the Bereans? –

Acts 17:11 – *These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so.* **REFLECT**

**POINTS TO PONDER:**

*The* ***W****ord of* ***S****cripture or the* ***W****ord of* ***S****cience, Whose* ***W****ord is* ***W****orth your* ***S****tand?*