

# Our Creator Jesus

What you must believe about the Lord to be saved

John 1:3 - All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made.

## Who were all things made through?

This is talking about Jesus, the Son of God... see the context John 1:1-14.

## Is this unique in Scripture, representing the Son of God as our Creator?

No, Jesus confirms His preexistence and deity in a prayer the night He was turned over to be crucified...

John 17:5 And now, O Father, glorify Me together with Yourself, with the glory which I had with You before the world was.

The multiple persons of the Godhead is reinforced by the creation account:

Genesis 1:26 - Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness..."

Jesus was also identified as the Creator in Rev. 4:11.

Rev 4:11 - You are worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honor and power; for You created all things, and by Your will they exist and were created.

The Apostle Paul declared Jesus to be Christ, "*who is over all, the eternally blessed God*" (Romans 9:5) and that we should be "*looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ*" (Titus 2:13). Paul believed Jesus to be the preexistent, omnipotent Creator who is actively involved in maintaining creation...

Colossians 1:15-17 - He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. 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, and **in Him all things consist**.

This is reinforced in Hebrews 1:2-3, 10:

Heb 1:1-3 - God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds; who being the brightness of His glory and the express image of His person, and **upholding all things by the word of His power**, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,

There are three instances where the Greek term "ho theos" is attributed to Jesus which means "the God":

Matthew 1:23 - Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel," which is translated, "God with us."

John 20:28 - And Thomas answered and said to Him, "My Lord and my God!"

Hebrews 1:8 - But to the Son He says: "Your throne, O God, is forever and ever; a scepter of righteousness is the scepter of Your Kingdom.

Concerning Colossians 1:16, "*all things were created through Him (Jesus)*." An ex-Jehovah Witness once told me he believed that the Son worked beside the Father as a master craftsman in the creation.

## What do you think about that belief?

- If this is the case, how do you reconcile Isaiah 44:24 which says that God "*makes all things, and stretches out the heavens **all alone**, and spreads abroad the earth **by Himself?***"

This same ex-Jehovah Witness also dismissed John 1:1 arguing that Jesus was created since Revelation 3:14 says Jesus was at "the Beginning of the creation of God."

## How would you handle that argument?

- One way is to take a closer look at the meaning of the Greek word translated as "beginning" here. If you use a reliable Greek dictionary, you'll find it also means, "supervisor, designer, cause, origin, source."

## Can you be a Christian and deny the deity of Christ?

The denial of the deity of Christ among people who call themselves Christians has become common today. Those who call themselves Christians yet deny the deity of Christ are in league with cults like the Mormons and Jehovah Witnesses. Now even leaders in "mainstream" (albeit liberal) Christendom deny the deity of Christ.

## What does people calling themselves Christians while denying fundamental Christian beliefs tell us about the age we live in?

- I see this trend as just one more sign that Jesus will return soon. The apostasy of the professing church where people calling themselves Christians will deny basic truths will grow prior to the return of Jesus...

Matt 24:5, 24 - For many will come in My name, saying, 'I am the Christ,' and will deceive many... For false christs and false prophets will rise and show

great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect.

II Th 2:3 - Let no one deceive you by any means; for that Day will not come unless the falling away comes first, and the man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition

1 Tim 4:1-2 - Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons, speaking lies in hypocrisy, having their own conscience seared with a hot iron,

#### **Is believing the deity of Christ a matter of salvation?**

- YES! - A correct view that Jesus is God is a matter of eternal life and death because Jesus said, *"if you do not believe that I am He, you will die in your sins"* (John 8:24).
- You really don't believe in the Jesus of the Bible if you don't believe His testimony.
  - Jesus represented himself as God per John 5:18, 10:30-33 and 14:9.
- Those who reject Jesus' testimony do not believe Him and so can not believe in Him and will perish...  
John 3:16 - For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

#### **Is believing in the virgin birth of Jesus necessary for salvation?**

Yes, if Jesus had a human father, He could not be God.

#### **Is believing in the resurrection of Jesus necessary for salvation?**

Yes, if you don't believe the resurrection happened, you are calling Jesus a liar and thus He can not be God...

Num 23:19 - God is not a man, that He should lie

Titus 1:2 - God... cannot lie

#### **Can you be saved and believe in evolution? Can you be saved and believe that God brought about the creation using evolution?**

- I was when I was first saved so I know it is possible but I also know that I was an infant in Christ and that there is great danger in remaining an infant. If you don't grow in knowledge of the truth, you must question your own salvation.  
Luke 16:31 - But he said to him, 'If they do not hear Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded though one rise from the dead.'  
Well One has risen from the dead and most people have rejected His testimony. Likewise, those who spiritualize Genesis which was written

by Moses are denying the Almighty nature of God and are in danger of failing to believe in Jesus.

#### **If you do not believe the Genesis account of the creation is literally true, how can you be sure that any of the Bible is literally true?**

- Unless you take God at His word and believe the Genesis account of creation is literally true, you can not be sure about anything the Bible says.  
If you start "spiritualizing" Genesis, where do you stop? If Genesis 1 does not mean what it says, maybe John 3:16 doesn't really promise a substantive eternal life to believers. It was a great relief and drew me closer to God when I appropriated the counsel, "if the literal interpretation makes sense, seek no other sense."
- You may say you are trusting in Jesus but many people trust in a Jesus of human definition and not the Jesus of the Bible.

#### **If God is Almighty, why didn't He bring about the creation just as He said He did? Why would He encode the simple truth and subject people to dependency on interpretations from others?**

If God is Almighty, He is powerful enough to accurately bring us His word and preserve it even using His error-prone creation without critical errors.

- In fact, the creation is a testimony to the omnipotent nature of God, *"For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse"* (Romans 1:20).

#### **How is creation a testimony of God?**

- If were walking along a beach and found a watch, would you think that the watch washed up on the beach after being formed by wave action from the minerals in the sea? NO! If there is a watch, there had to be a watch-maker. Likewise, if there is a creation, there had to be a Creator.
- Examples from creation reveal God: the symbiotic relationship between algae and fungus in lichens... there are three varieties in the world and the only organism made up of two others that were made for each other and they work together, the fungus does not kill the algae that nourishes it.

#### **Is a correct understanding of the Lord's Almighty nature necessary for salvation?**

The Bible represents God as Almighty and in control of all things (see Colossians 1:15-17 and Hebrews 1:1-3 above). If you don't believe the God represented by the Bible, you don't believe God.

**What are some difficulties that people who believe that God used evolution to bring about the creation have to overlook?**

- That there was no death prior to Adam's fall into sin. When God created the world, it was perfect, complete. This is why He rested, no more work was required. In God's own words, *"indeed it was very good"* (Genesis 1:31). The implication here is that there was no death until the fall of man: *"just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men"* (Romans 5:12).
- Evolution calls for "survival of the fittest" where the weak die out making way for the strong. Scripture makes it clear that this is not how God works.
- That the Scripture goes to great pains to represent "day" as a 24-hour period since it refers to morning and evening. This is reinforced in the Ten Commandments; Exodus 20:8-11 establishes a memorial for the seventh day of the week as God did on the original Sabbath. The Hebrew word for "days" in this passage is the same whether it is applied to the days of creation or our own work week.
- The Second Law of Thermodynamics. From an introduction on a UC Berkeley Website:  
The second law is concerned with entropy, which is a measure of disorder. The second law says that the entropy of the universe increases. An increase in disorder (overall) is therefore spontaneous. If the volume and energy of a system are constant, then every change to the system increases the entropy. If volume or energy change, then the entropy of the system can actually decrease. However, the entropy of the universe does not decrease.

**How does the fact of entropy show that the theory of evolution is bankrupt?**

- Evolution holds that from simple matter, complex life spontaneously generated. Entropy says that this is just not possible without being acted on by an external force.
- Not only that but the evidence for intelligent design (non-reducible complexity) shows that the creation was directed, not random.

**For evolution to work, what must there be a lot of?**  
Time.

**Is a literal biblical interpretation on the age of the earth necessary to be saved?**

- No, I would not allow myself to be burned at the stake over my convictions about the age of the earth. I consider this a "doubtful thing" (Romans 14:1) that is not worth splitting a church over. I know that what one

believes about the age of the earth has no direct bearing on their salvation (thus making it a "doubtful thing").

- However I believe that a wrong view of the creation account can indirectly lead to dangerous doctrines that do keep people from being saved...

Luke 16:31 - If they do not hear Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded though one rise from the dead.

**Does science support the Genesis account of creation?**

- Unbiased science does, scientific understanding is a gift from God when it is properly motivated to seek to know the Creator through His creation. (Note that significant scientific discovery is a Western [Christian] phenomenon and all the early scientists were Christians.)
  - Christians were the driving force behind the Renaissance taking the world out of the Dark Ages.
- There is a preponderance of scientific evidence supporting creation. I'll only summarize some representative points...

**How do fossils prove the truth of the Bible?**

- The mere existence of fossils is proof of the world-wide flood described in Genesis. When organisms die they generally do not start forming future fossils, they rot. Only a catastrophic event such as the flood could have caused the right conditions for fossils to form.
- World geological view holds that each layer of sedimentary rock represents millions of years yet there are occurrences of single petrified trees spanning multiple sedimentary layers. If it took millions of years for each layer of sediment to form, the tree would have rotted away long before it could become petrified.
- There are no "transitional forms" between species found in the fossil record which would be expected if evolution were true. Those holding on to the religion of evolution have had to come up with another theory to explain away the lack of evidence called "punctuated equilibrium" which says evolutionary change happened in spurts. This contradicts "uniformitarianism" one of the cornerstones of evolution and they don't bother to explain what caused these spurts.

Genesis 1:21 - So God created great sea creatures and every living thing that moves, with which the waters abounded, according to their kind, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good.

**What kind of evidence is there for a young earth?**

There are many "earth clocks" which give evidence as to the age of this planet...

- The decay of the earth's magnetic field suggests that this steady process could not have been occurring longer than about 10,000 years.

- The formation of river deltas are only large enough to represent 5,000 years of soil erosion.
- Carbon-14 dates the oldest once-living matter within less than 10,000 years. This includes Neanderthal man bones, saber-tooth tigers, mammoths, coal, natural gas, crude oil, etc.
- The growth of the human population also indicates that this could not be occurring more than 4,000 years.
- The amount of top soil on the earth only accounts for 6,000-25,000 years of formation.
- The amount of solar wind gasses in moon rocks only accounts for 10,000 years.
- The amount of dust on the moon only accounts for 10,000 years.
- The growth of stalactites and stalagmites only accounts for tens of thousands of years.

There are at least 80 similar such points of evidence reinforcing the creation account of Genesis.

#### **How do you explain the millions of years scientists come up with for the age of rocks?**

Techniques used to date rocks are not as reliable as Carbon-14 which is limited to once-living matter. Rock dating techniques use the decay of radioactive isotopes but assumptions must be made as to how much radioactive material was present in the rock from the beginning. These assumptions are easily skewed to give results for which researchers are looking. It is common practice for rock dating services to ask their customers what age they expect the rocks to be based on fossils and sedimentary layers around them so they can "calibrate" their instruments. Studies on volcanic rocks from Hawaii known to be less than 200 years old, yielded ages from 160 million to almost 3 billion years using common rock dating techniques.

#### **How does the rise of evolution as a belief that men hold tell us about how close we are to the return of the Lord?**

We are living in the age of scoffers...

2 Pet 3:3-8

3 knowing this first: that scoffers will come in the last days, walking according to their own lusts,

4 and saying, "Where is the promise of His coming? For since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of creation."

5 For this they willfully forget: that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of water and in the water,

6 by which the world that then existed perished, being flooded with water.

7 But the heavens and the earth which are now preserved by the same word, are reserved for fire until the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men.

8 But, beloved, do not forget this one thing, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day.

People are deliberately putting out of their mind the reality that God created the world and changed it with a world-wide flood.

#### **We said earlier that what a person believes about the age of the earth has no bearing on whether they are saved or not, but what must a person believe to be saved?**

Believe that Jesus Christ is God manifest in the flesh, that He paid the penalty for my sin, and that He is my personal Savior and Lord... A personal understanding of the good news about Jesus *"is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes"* (Romans 1:16).