**Science and the Bible**

*What Difference Does It Make?*

I. Is the Bible a Science Book?

 A. The Bible says things we know are unscientific.

 1. Psalm 58:4: A cobra stops up its ears, but a snake does not have ears.

 Ecclesiastes 1:5: The sun rises and the sun sets, instead of the earth rotating.

 Revelation 7:1: Angels stood at the four corners of the earth, when the earth is round.

2. Is this literal or figurative language? Do we ever use unscientific, figurative language?

 B. What sorts of things does the Bible call on us to believe that are unscientific?

 1. II Kings 20:8-11: The shadow retreats ten steps (the earth reversed rotation).

 II Kings 6:5-7: Elisha makes an iron ax head float.

Jonah 1:17; 2:10: Jonah spends 72 hours inside a fish’s belly.

Matthew 14:22-33: Jesus walks on water.

Acts 3:1-10: Peter heals a man lame from birth with one touch.

 Matthew 28:1-10: Jesus is raised from the dead.

2. Do we need to interpret the Bible to allow us to believe these things occurred in a figurative sense only? E.g., the Jefferson Bible.

C. Psalm 136: God’s love is seen in His creation (1-9) and the history of Israel (10-22)

1. Is the point of this passage to explain history or science, or to testify about God’s love?

2. If about God’s love, does it make a difference if the history really happened or if the science is correct?

D. Psalm 104 and 105 describe the glory of God seen in creation and history, respectively.

1. Does it make a difference to God’s glory if the Bible is wrong about the history of the Jewish nation?

2. Does it make a difference to God’s glory if the Bible is wrong about the story of creation?

E. Was the Bible written primarily to be a geography or history book? When the Bible speaks about history or geography, can we trust what it says to be true? How does this relate to science?

II. If the Bible is Not a Science Book, What Difference Does It Make What We Believe?

 A. Psalm 19:1-14: Creation and Law. How are they related?

 B. Psalm 95: 3-6: Because God is the Creator, He should be worshipped.

 C. I Kings 4:33: Solomon observed and commented on nature.

 D. Isaiah 45:9-13: God created us, and therefore has the right to command us.

 E. John 20:30-31: Miracles recorded so that we might believe.

 F. I Corinthians 15:12-19: If Jesus was not raised, we are to be pitied.

III. The Nature of God From the Bible and Science

A. What can we deduce about the nature of God from just observing the creation around us? Ps. 19:1; Romans 1:20; Matthew 5:45

B. What do we need the Bible to tell us about God? Acts 17:22-32

C. “Two things fill the mind with ever new and increasing wonder and awe – the starry heavens above me and the moral law within me.” Immanuel Kant

IV. Answers in Genesis

 A. The book of Genesis answers many fundamental questions about life:

 1. Where did we come from?

 2. Why are we here?

 3. Where are we going?

 B. How are the answers to these questions different if a person accepts naturalistic evolution?

C. What is the correlation between not seeking after God as Creator and corruption? Psalm 14:1-3; Romans 1: 18-23