

Gospel Reset Bible Class, Part 2

I. Does the Holy Scriptures teach a young earth, literal six-day creation?

Genesis 1:1-2:3

Exodus 20:8-11

Matthew 19:4-6 (on Gen. 1) and Matthew 24:36-39 (on Gen. 6)

Luke 3:36-39

Chapter: "Why Is This Happening?" p. 33ff

p.35, p.72, "...they don't need to believe in a literal Genesis."

p.121-123, "Actually the Bible is a book of history.... The Bible informs us that..."

II. Is God's Word Inerrant and truthful in every point (history, etc.)?

Scripture is the sole source from which all doctrine is drawn. Not just in "spiritual" things, but whenever the Scripture speaks it is correct. Concerning this creation,

1. No doctrine of God's Word is optional.

Matthew 28:20, "...teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you..."

John 10:35, "The Scripture cannot be broken,"

2 Timothy 3:16-17, "All Scripture is God-breathed..."

2 Peter 1:21, "Prophecy...men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit."

Open Questions – only those items which the Scriptures do not answer.

2. Every departure from God's Word is sin.

Rom 8:7, "...It does not submit to God's law..."

3. Denial of one of Scriptures teachings is logically a denial of the whole common source.

4. All error has a tendency to spread to other teachings.

III. How does the doctrine of a Creator and Creation relate to the rest of the Scripture?

(The domino effect of denying God's six-day creation.)

p.35 "How you view Genesis dictates how you see and interpret the rest of the Bible."

1. Paradise ("very good")

p.73, "...God called cancer 'very good.'"

2. Adam and Eve

p.119, "...If there was no literal first Adam and the Fall (original sin), and death as a consequence..."

3. We are not all descendants of Adam and Eve, made in the image of God

4. Original Sin - Where did it come from? Not from the Fall

p.75 "Is it any wonder that many fail to understand how we (because of our sin in Adam) messed up the world and now it's groaning because of our sin?"

5. Death is not a punishment of sin, but death, bloodshed and disease before Adam sinned.

p.72, Major Problem: "death, bloodshed and disease exist before Adam sinned." P.74

6. No Savior needed, nor was one ever promised to Adam and Eve

p.75-76 "...don't understand the holiness of God and what sin really is.... That's why many think that if your are a good person, you can get to heaven."

7. No immortal soul- Gen 2:7

8. Holy Scriptures are not inspired and inerrant. Made up by man

p. 121 "...the Bible is something that deals with morality and salvation..."

9. God is not above nature (in nature). Our idea of God has evolved

10. We are still evolving, we may become more advanced than Jesus
 p. 123 "...and out of this history comes the rules (morality) by which we are to live."
11. No forgiveness, Jesus is not Lord
12. If "theistic evolution" then we have a limited God who works through evolution. God is not in control of heaven and earth. ("holding all things together")
13. Jesus lied about Flood, Moses, etc., and Jesus is not perfect
 p.123 "...If the geology, biology, etc. (taught in the Bible) are not true then ultimately neither is the history real."
 Mark 8:38, " If anyone is ashamed of Me and of My words...."

IV. How often does the church make use of the doctrine of Creator/creation?

It serves to define our God and gives believers great comfort.
 Divine Service: The versicle (Psalm 124:8) at the beginning of the Divine Service.
 All three of the Creeds
 Sanctus "Heaven and earth are full of your glory."
 Matins: Venite(Ps 95), Te Deum(Heaven and earth are full of the majesty of your glory.)
 Book of Concord, including the catechisms, large and small
 Readings from God's Word

V. Is the doctrine of young earth, literal 6-day creation required for congregational membership?

Yes, church fellowship requires complete agreement in doctrine and practice.
 "Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God and confess the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from them, as you have learned to know it from the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?" (Confirmation)
 Romans 16:17 "Now I urge you, brethren, note those who cause divisions and offenses, contrary to the doctrine which you learned, and avoid them."
 1 Corinthians 5:11-13 "But now I have written to you not to keep company with anyone named a brother, who is sexually immoral, or covetous, or an idolater, or a reviler, or a drunkard, or an extortioner—not even to eat with such a person. 12... Do you not judge those who are inside? 13But those who are outside God judges. Therefore 'put away from yourselves the evil person.'"

VI. Is the doctrine of a young earth, literal 6-day creation required for salvation? No.

Fundamental Doctrines (foundation of faith)

1. Knowledge of sin and of the consequences of sin (death, eternal damnation)
 1 John 1:8-9 "If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. 9If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."
 Luke 18:19-21 The Pharisee denies that he is a sinner.
2. Knowledge of Person of Christ, Work of Christ
 Acts 10:43 "To Him all the prophets witness that, through His name, whoever believes in Him will receive remission of sins."
 1 John 1:7 "...and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.
 1 John 5:12-13, "He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life. 13These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life, and that you may continue to believe in the name of the Son of God."

3. Faith in the Word (the external word of the Gospel)
 John 20:31 but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name.
 Ephesians 2:20, "...having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone..."
4. Denial of bodily resurrection and eternal life will subvert the Christian faith
 2 Timothy 2:17-18 And their message will spread like cancer. Hymenaeus and Philetus are of this sort, 18who have strayed concerning the truth, saying that the resurrection is already past; and they overthrow the faith of some.
 1 Corinthians 15:12; 34, "Now if Christ is preached that He has been raised from the dead, how do some among you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? ...34Awake to righteousness, and do not sin; for some do not have the knowledge of God. I speak this to your shame.
 Matthew 22:23; 29 "The same day the Sadducees, who say there is no resurrection, came to Him and asked Him,... 29Jesus answered and said to them, "You are mistaken, not knowing the Scriptures nor the power of God.

[Primary and Secondary Fundamental doctrines - Secondary Fundamental doctrines (Baptism and Lord's Supper) man may be ignorant of and still be saved. There is more than one means of grace, and one can be saved by believing the Word.]

Acts 2:38 "Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit."

Matthew 26:28 "For this is My blood of the new covenant, which is shed for many for the remission of sins."

Mark 16:16 "He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned."

Non-Fundamental doctrines - One can be saved if ignorant of these teachings (e.g. Antichrist, angels). The denial of even non-fundamental endangers faith.

Galatians 5:9 A little leaven leavens the whole lump.

Romans 14:1ff, "Receive one who is weak in the faith, but not to disputes over doubtful things."

Philippians 3:9, "...and be found in Him, not having my own righteousness, which is from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is from God by faith;"

Genesis 10:9

Felicitous Inconsistency - The denial of one doctrine will logically result in a denial of another. When man does not logically follow this, we call it a good thing!

1 Corinthians 3:11-15, "For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. 12Now if anyone builds on this foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, 13each one's work will become clear; for the Day will declare it, because it will be revealed by fire; and the fire will test each one's work, of what sort it is. 14If anyone's work which he has built on it endures, he will receive a reward. 15If anyone's work is burned, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire."