

Lesson 4 Genesis 1:20-23
Genesis for Families

20 ¶ And God said, Let the waters bring forth abundantly the moving creature that hath life, and fowl that may fly above the earth in the open firmament of heaven. 21 And God created great whales, and every living creature that moves, which the waters brought forth abundantly, after their kind, and every winged fowl after his kind: and God saw that it was good. 22 And God blessed them, saying, Be fruitful, and multiply, and fill the waters in the seas, and let fowl multiply in the earth. 23 And the evening and the morning were the fifth day.

“And God said, Let the waters bring forth abundantly the moving creature that hath life.” The evolutionist would have us believe that all things came from a small one cell organism that came into being as if by accident in some ancient sea. This passage tells us this isn't true because God created the birds differently from the animals of the sea. The Bible says God created every moving thing in the sea at one time. This does not leave any room for one animal to evolve from another. In like manner God created the birds (*“and fowl that may fly above the earth in the open firmament of heaven.”*) all at the same time.

We also find differences between evolution (science) and the Bible in this passage where the whole ocean was populated most abundantly with many species of sea life (“every moving thing”). Once more there is no progression from a simple to more complex life form. The whole taking one day instead of billions of years. Likewise the birds were all created at the same time and with an abundance of species. There is no way to bring harmony to science of man and the creation as God reveals it in the Bible.

“After their kind” is used for both the animals of the sea and the birds of the air. We saw when God created the trees and grasses that they too were noted as having their seed within them after their own kind. God created the earth fully populated with an abundance of life of very diverse kinds. Each kind brought forth more of its own kind. Genetic science and men wise in the way of plants have crossed different species of animals and plants to form “new” life forms. However we do not find this happening in nature though the same birds and bees provide the pollination of a whole field each plant brings forth its own kind and each tree produces fruit of its kind with seeds within the fruit that produce the same trees with the same fruit. Mutations do happen in nature but are the rare exception not the normal way of things. These mutant plants or animals are sterile and do not bring forth a whole new species after this new kind.

How then do we answer science where it appears some sort of evolution has taken place over time? The answer is adaptation whereby a species of plant or animal adapts though the generations to better tolerate the environment around it or as nature itself has changed that environment. The earth has changed through the ages and climates and living conditions have changed with the changes to the earth itself. DNA testing however reveals a common species not a new creature that has evolved or a mutant strain that has continued to produce others like the first. The Bible does not address adaptation and there is no reason to deny such can or even has taken place. The only difference the Bible would present concerning such adaptations is the length of time it took for the adaptation to take place. By using what dates we can firmly

establish from the Bible and the tables of genealogy we find in the Bible it appears the earth is approximately 7,000 years old.

The world of science has the earth in existence and evolution taking place for billions of years before man comes on the scene. The Bible has the earth in existence and other life forms on the earth days before man. Can we perfectly align the Bible with what appear to be facts in science? Absolutely not and there is no reason we should. Science presents a theory of how the earth and all living things came into being they cannot prove their theory either. It becomes a question of whom will we believe, God or man?

Science in measuring time uses assumptions no one has any way to prove. The most common has to do with the life span of carbon atoms. Science can measure the rate of decay in these atoms and project the age of anything with a carbon base from that. This assumes carbon decays in a linear fashion and has always done so. As God asked Job several questions along the line of where were you when I created different things? So the question is put to the world of science today how can you know the rate of decay within a carbon atom has never changed or never will? God created the earth mature or good and it would appear to be of an age that has nothing to do with the reality of the time God took in the creation of all things. God created the carbon atom too.

God did not choose to address these details in His revelation of creation in the Bible. What has been presented here is overly simplified and not intended for a lesson in science. The point being made is that the believer has God's word of how all things were created. Can the believer prove to a nonbeliever this is how it was? No, because God didn't provide the information to do so. However the nonbeliever cannot prove his theories either. Because the world accepts evolution and chooses that as the standard to teach future generations proves nothing. Do not fear that you will appear foolish because you believe God instead of men. The Bible speaks of this very thing in these words, "O Timothy, keep that which is committed to thy trust, avoiding profane and vain babblings, and oppositions of science falsely so called:" (1 Timothy 6:20). So long before these things were an issue God warned us they would happen and we were to keep His word and to avoid these vain words of men.

Application:

God created all things pure and good for the benefit of mankind. Mankind has used God given wisdom to change the natural order of things in the so-called name of progress. Progress supposedly means life is easier and better results are achieved with less effort among other things. For example insecticides will mean less loss to insects and more fruit will be harvested from the fields. The result is many species of insects that have now proven beneficial to the balance of nature created by God no longer exist. Men discovered that by adding certain chemicals to foods they could be preserved longer and keep their fresh appearance and remain appealing to the person buying them. After the fact we find that many of these additives cause cancer and other diseases. It is a recent development that science is admitting that in many ways the natural way is the best and produces the safest food supply.

Man without the guidance of the Holy Spirit will always move to an extreme. God has given to us the ability to reason and by the Holy Spirit Self Control (Gal 5:22ff). This self-control allows us to take the best of the knowledge God has given and our fellow man has applied in providing a better way of doing things without over doing it. So it is not that all additives that are not natural to a food is bad, but an excess of any renders the foodstuff inedible or foul tasting. Consider the most natural of preservatives, salt. Foods preserved this way must be soaked to remove part of the salt to make them edible. Then while salt is a Biblically recognized seasoning, too much salt is harmful to the health of the person. As a rule-of-thumb, natural is best. But this doesn't rule out making changes that can be useful to us.

Questions:

- An old riddle is “which came first the chicken or the egg?” Answer this question from the text of this lesson
- How many species of fish did God create on the fifth day? (Trick question)
- What is the difference between adaptation and evolution and which can be biblical?
- May a believer season food?
- What fruit of the Holy Spirit allows us to make prudent choices?