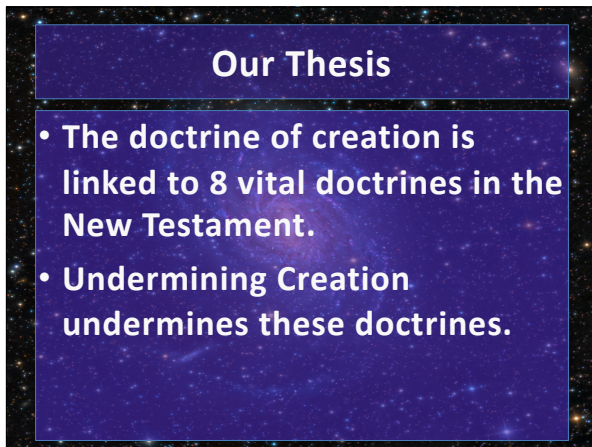


1

Spiral galaxy NGC 6744 -- nearly 175,000 light-years across, larger than [our own Milky Way](#). It lies some 30 million light-years distant in the southern constellation Pavo.

That is a distance of 7,344,892,080,000,000 — 7.34 quintillion miles

If you got in a space ship going 1,000,000 miles an hour — it would take you 7.34 trillion hours to get there = 837 million years



2



3

These 8 doctrines are central to the message of the NT and indeed to the entire Bible

We will look at how each of these doctrines is linked in the NT to Creation.

First we will see a summary of concepts and then supporting passages that illustrate them.

Theology

• The doctrine of God

4

Acts 4:24

And when they heard it, they lifted their voices together to God and said, "Sovereign Lord, who made **the heaven and the earth and the sea and everything in them,**

5

These are the words of the early Christians in response to the persecution by the religious leaders. "Heaven, earth, sea, all in them" is a merism for the entire universe

It is a quotation from the Sabbath commandment (Ex 20:11). Also occurs in Acts 14:15 – Paul and Barnabus seeking to hold back the people of Lystra from worshipping them.

Note that whoever has the power to make the Universe has incredible power at His disposal.

Acts 4:25

who through the mouth of our father David, your servant, said by the Holy Spirit, 'Why did the Gentiles rage, and the peoples plot in vain?'"

6

The God who made the world is the God who protects His people.

The concept of fiat Creation by the Word of God is the underlying foundation for His protection of His people.

Reverse the idea to a slow process of evolutionary development and you undermine the concept of protection. He is not powerful enough to protect, or worse, He does not care enough to protect you and lets "nature run its course"

Acts 17:24-25

The God who **made the world and everything in it**, being Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in temples made by man,²⁵ nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since **he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything.**

7

Paul's words in his sermon on Mars Hill to the thought leaders of Athens – it is the same emphasis on Creation as found in Acts 4 and 14, but here in a Gentile context (note that Paul does not quote the OT here, though the ideas are OT concepts).

The parallels are to Gen 1 – He made all; He gives all mankind life and breath Gen 2:7

Hebrews 11:3

By faith we understand that **the universe was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible.**

8

The word Universe is αἰών here in the plural. The word in the singular means “age, eternity, lifetime, an epoch.” So why is it translated “universe” here? There are uses where it refers to “this present age = this present world” (Mt 13:22, Rom 12:2, etc.). In this sense the plural would equal all the worlds = “the universe”

Note that the visible universe was made from that which is invisible – today we know that energy and matter are interchangeable. $E = MC^2$ Energy = Mass X Speed of Light Squared

Romans 1:20

For his invisible attributes, namely, **his eternal power and divine nature**, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the **things that have been made**. So they are without excuse.

9

This is Paul's argumentation about the sinfulness of mankind – **the creation points to its Creator. This is consistent with the Teleological argument for God's existence, Design points to Designer.**

The vast complexity of life and life systems points clearly in this direction.

Evolutionary science denies God's eternal power by its very nature of slow development over eons of time – He does not have the power or else He does not have the will or desire to create life by His word.

1 Peter 4:19

- Therefore let those who suffer according to God's will **entrust their souls to a faithful Creator while doing good.**

10

Notice that it is **God's role as Creator that teaches us to entrust ourselves to Him.**

He created us and all the world order is under His rule. He can recreate us and protect us.

If evolution were true, this verse would be nonsense and no comfort at all to the suffering Christian.

Revelation 4:10

the twenty-four elders fall down before him who is seated on the throne and **worship him who lives forever and ever.** They cast their crowns before the throne, saying,

11

The Throne Room scene

Revelation 4:11

"Worthy are you, our Lord and God,
to receive glory and honor and power,
for you created all things,
and by your will they existed and were created."

12

God is worthy of worship because He is the Creator.

If He is not the Creator, we need not worship Him.

Evolution, in fact, posits humanity as the pinnacle of development, the measure of all around us. This leads to worship of self rather than worship of God.

Theology

- **God is the Creator of all things.**
- **He is all powerful.**
- **His creation points to His character.**
- **He is the only One worthy of worship.**

13

God is the Creator of all things. – He is not in creation (panentheism). He is not creation itself (pantheism). Creation is separate from Him, something He invented.

He is all powerful. – The universe is huge. The Creator of such things has to be all powerful.

His creation points to His character – power, wonder, beauty, complexity, incredible adaption of means to an end.

He is the only One worthy of worship. – throughout Scripture this is the reason for worshiping God in contrast to the gods of the nations.

Remove Creation and you remove these vital aspects of the Doctrine of God

Christology

- **The doctrine of Christ**

14

John 1:1-3

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God. ³ All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made.

15

John 1:1 has 3 parts – the temporal relationship of the Word to the beginning (already there), the relationship of the Word to the Father (intimacy), and the divine nature of the Word.

Cf. John 1:10 – the world was made through Him

Notice again the concept of God (Christ) being separate from Creation. He is not Creation, He is not in all living things. He is separate from it. He is its inventor. Notice the **focus on the immanence of God** (close to us, in touch with the world He has made, all is made through Him).

Evolution speaks of God as far away from us, uninvolved and unconcerned with what happens here. If evolution is true, it seems we are not responsible to God.

Colossians 1:15-16

He is the image of the invisible God, **the firstborn of all creation.** ¹⁶ For **by him all things were created**, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—**all things were created through him and for him.**

16

Christ as Firstborn = position of preeminence, first place. NOT Christ created being

Cf. Rev 3:14 – Christ as the Beginning of God's creation

Hebrews 1:2

But in these last days he has spoken to us by **his Son**, whom he appointed the heir of all things, **through whom also he created the world.**

17

Hebrews 1:3

He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and **he upholds the universe by the word of his power.** After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,

18

Notice God and Christ's involvement not only in the original Creation, but also in **ongoing involvement in our world.** (cf. John 5:17 where Jesus parallels His healing work with God's ongoing work in the Created order).

Christology

- Christ, the eternal Son, is the One through whom the universe was created.
- He was with the Father before the world began.
- He is preeminent over Creation.

19

Anthropology

- The doctrine of human beings

20

Matthew 19:4-5

He answered, "Have you not read that **he who created them from the beginning made them male and female,**⁵ and said, 'Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and **the two shall become one flesh**'?"

21

The first reference is to Gen 1:26-27

The second reference is to Gen 2:24-25

Jesus took these accounts as factual and historical. Otherwise His argument about marriage fails.

James 3:9-10

With it we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse **people who are made in the likeness of God**. ¹⁰ From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers,* these things ought not to be so.

22

Fundamental to James' argument about why it is wrong to curse people is that they are made in the likeness of God. If they were not made so, the argument fails to convince.

1 Corinthians 15:44-45

It is sown a **natural body**; it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a natural body, there is also a spiritual body. ⁴⁵ Thus it is written, "**The first man Adam became a living being**"; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit.

23

Paul is arguing about the Resurrection, **quoting from Genesis 2:7**

Again, the historicity of the Genesis account is implicit in what Paul is arguing.

Without the original Creation, the End time resurrection is uncertain, even lost.

Genesis 2:7

Then the LORD God formed the man of **dust from the ground** and breathed into his nostrils **the breath of life**, and the **man became a living creature**.

24

Dust + Breath of Life = Living Being, Living Soul

נפש

soul, living being, life, self, person, desire, appetite, emotion, and passion

Luke 3:23

Jesus, when he began his ministry, was about thirty years of age, being the son (as was supposed) of Joseph, the son of Heli, . . .

25

Luke 3:38

. . . the son of Enos, the son of Seth, the son of Adam, the son of God.

26

Matthew begins the genealogy of Jesus beginning with Abraham and going down to Jesus – big emphasis on link to David (Son of David) and secondarily to Abraham

Luke begins from the other direction, starting with Jesus, and going back, not to Abraham only, but all the way back to Adam (Son of God)

It is a genealogy. Notice the emphasis on Adam as a historical figure, the first man.

If Adam were not a historical figure then the teaching of Jesus as the Son of God is undermined because the link all the way back to the past is broken.

1 Peter 2:13

Be subject for the Lord's sake to every human institution, whether it be to the emperor as supreme,

27

Institution = κτίσις = creature, creation

All human leaders are creatures, not the Creator

Peter fundamentally undermines the power structure of the Greco-Roman world with this phraseology

If man is not created by God then he is not responsible to God and human power structures are the ultimate of power relationships.

But if Creation is true, the power structures of earth are placed in subservience and answerable to the God of heaven.

Evolution teaches the inherent POWER of tooth and claw, survival of the fittest. Creation teaches the inherent RELATIONSHIP between God and humans and His LAW as the governing rules in all relationships. Instead of power of one being over another used to control, power is under the relationship to the Creator used to build up.

Anthropology

- People are created in the image of God.
- Adam and Eve were historical figures.
- A person is a whole, a combination of earth and the breath of life.
- People are creatures not the Creator.

28

Undermine Creation and you remove these essential biblical concepts of anthropology.

Sin and Death

- The doctrine of sin and death (Harmatology and Thanatology)

29

Romans 5:12

Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned—

30

Paul is quite clear, sin came first and this brought death.

If Evolution is correct, death comes first, then sin and Paul is wrong.

Paul's statement assumes the literal historicity of Genesis 1-3.

Historical Figure

- “Paul treats Adam as a historical human being, humanity’s first parent, and contrasts him with the historical Jesus Christ.”

Joseph Fitzmyer, *Romans*, Anchor Bible Commentary, vol. 33 (New York: Doubleday, 1993), 407.

31

1 Timothy 2:13-14

For Adam was formed first, then Eve; ¹⁴ and Adam was not deceived, but the woman was deceived and became a transgressor.

32

A clear reference to Gen 2 and 3

Whatever you think else about this passage, it points to the historical nature of Gen 2-3

Romans 1:21

For although they knew God, **they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him**, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened

33

Romans 1:22-23

Claiming to be wise, they became fools, ²³ and **exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images** resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things.

34

This is idolatry. It is so dangerous because you become like what you worship. You highly prize and value and honor it.

Idolatry is the primal sin.

Evolutionary theory inherently involves the concept of humanity as the pinnacle, the measure of all things. Humanity becomes the focus of attention and idolatry sets in.

You become like that which you worship.

Sin and Death

- Sin and death are linked.
- Death entered through sin through the actions of the historical Adam and Eve.
- The primal sin is idolatry.

35

Remove Creation and you undermine the biblical concept of Sin, which means you undermine the need for the Savior.

Death becomes not an enemy but a friend, and helping people to die becomes acceptable.

Salvation

- The doctrine of how God saves people

36

Colossians 3:10

Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices ¹⁰ and have put on the new self, which is **being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator.**

37

A clear reference to the creation account of Gen 1:26-27

If people were not made in the image of God, it certainly cannot be restored in them. You cannot restore what was never lost or was never there.

If God is not the Creator, then there is no Imago Dei to consider as a paradigm or pattern for our character renewal.

2 Corinthians 5:17

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is **a new creation**. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

38

Creation = κτίσις = creature, creation

Notice the way that Creation serves as a paradigm for restoration.

This also is a major theme in the Gospel of John as we saw in our presentation on Creation in John.

Salvation

- **Salvation is the restoration of the image of God in humans.**
- **Creation is one of the paradigms used to describe salvation.**

39

Without Creation and Fall you do not need redemption, you do not need the Savior

Ethics

- The doctrine of how Christians are to treat other people

40

James 3:9-10

With it we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse **people who are made in the likeness of God.** ¹⁰ From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers,* these things ought not to be so.

41

Cursing or mistreating others is wrong because they are made in the image of God.

Image of God = our Alien Dignity – from outside of our realm, linked to God. Worthy of respect regardless of what a person has done.

Ephesians 2:10

For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should **walk in them.**

42

The Christian life is a life of service to others to bless and uplift them.

The Christian's lifestyle is thus tied to Creation as well. **Creation and New Creation are interlinked.**

Evolution denies new creation because it is not needed. Evolution teaches progress upward. Creation and Scripture teaches an original perfection, lost that needs restoration.

Without Creation, Salvation is unnecessary and the work of the Savior is unnecessary. His death on the cross is a tragedy instead of a victory.

Ethics

- We must treat people with respect because they are made in the image of God.
- The new creation requires us to live to bless others.

43

Without Creation there is no *Imago Dei* and you are not bound ethically to respect all people regardless of their background or actions.

Marriage

- The doctrine of God's expectation for human intimate relationships

44

Matthew 19:3-4

And Pharisees came up to him and tested him by asking, "Is it lawful to divorce one's wife for any cause?" ⁴ He answered, "Have you not read that he who created them from the beginning made them male and female,

45

Matthew 19:5-6

and said, 'Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh'? ⁶ So they are no longer two but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, let not man separate."

46

Jesus unites Gen 1 (male and female in God's image) with Gen 2 (two become one flesh) to indicate that marriage is affirmed by God and has permanency as an outcome and command. This is rooted in the Gen 1-2 stories.

Like Paul in Romans 5, Jesus assumes the historical nature of the first pair.

Without this linkage to Gen 1-2, Jesus' argument fails. And the focus on permanence in marriage also fails.

Instead of a covenant between man and woman under God in relationship as Creation teaches, **Evolution teaches that marriage is simply a contract** between two individuals, one for the benefit of the individual and something that can be left when the contract no longer helps the individuals advance.

Marriage

- The marriage relation is rooted in creation.
- The stability of the home is based in God's creative work in making Adam and Eve.

47

Eschatology

- The doctrine of last things, how God will bring the End

48

Romans 8:19-20

For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. ²⁰ For **the creation was subjected to futility**, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope

49

A reference to Genesis 3

Romans 8:21

that **the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption** and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God.

50

Notice the linkage between Creation and Eschatology

If nature was never "chained" in corruption and death, then it cannot be "set free."

1 Corinthians 15:49

Just as we have borne the **image of the man of dust**, we shall also bear the **image of the man of heaven**.

51

Again the linkage between beginning and ending.

If we were not in the image of the historical Adam then the parallel to bear the image of the Man of Heaven is undermined.

If there is no definite beginning then there seems to be no definite end. This is the message of Evolution – a slow gradual upward development, where death brings beauty and the individual is unimportant.

Eschatology

- The End is linked to the Beginning.
- What went wrong at the beginning will be corrected at the End.

52

The 8 Doctrines

- Theology
- Anthropology
- Salvation
- Marriage
- Christology
- Sin and death
- Ethics
- Eschatology

53

Theology – God is the almighty Creator, the only One worthy of worship. His creative power is illustrated all around us and shows us His immanence.

Christology – All creation was made through Christ, He is preeminent over all creation

Anthropology – People are made in God's image, a person is a whole, a combination of dust and breath of life

Sin and Death – Death entered the world through the sin of the historical figures Adam and Eve

Salvation – Salvation is the restoration of the image of God in humans.

Ethics – Because people are made in the image of God we must treat them with respect

Marriage – the stability of the home is based in Creation

Eschatology – As our world went wrong in Eden, it will be restored at the Second Coming of Christ

What If Evolution Were True

- Theology
 - God is not all powerful
 - God is arbitrary, uncaring
 - We may worship ourselves
- Christology
 - Christ is not the Creator
 - He is not preeminent, nor the Savior, we can ignore Him

54

55

What If Evolution Were True

• Anthropology

- Humans arose from lower forms of life.
- Humans are not made in the image of God.
- Respect for others is rooted in what they do, not in who they inherently are

56

What If Evolution Were True

• Sin and Death

- Death preceded sin.
- Death is the means of development.
- The world is progressing upward not downward.

57

What If Evolution Were True

• Salvation

- Man is progressing and needs no salvation.
- Progress is measured in human and naturalistic terms not in comparison with Christ.

58

What If Evolution Were True

• Ethics

- Since people are the end product of evolution they are the measure of all else.
- Other people can be used as a means to an end.
- There is no right or wrong, might makes right.

59

What If Evolution Were True

• Marriage

- Marriage is a contract between people. It can be broken at will.
- Marriage can be anything people want to make it.

60

What If Evolution Were True

• Eschatology

- Since there is no definite beginning, there is no definite End.
- The world is getting better, not worse. You are a small cog in a great progression toward evolution's goal.

61

Thank God for the Gospel

- Thank God this is not the case!
- The New Testament teaches us Creation is linked to these 8 fundamental truths.
- We dare not leave this Gospel truth.

62

Our Thesis

- The doctrine of creation is linked to 8 vital doctrines in the New Testament.
- Undermining Creation undermines these doctrines.

63

