

Doctrine Study 2021 | Session 1 | Creation

Daniel Harding's notes

Notes compiled by Daniel Harding; referencing Herschel Hobbs book, *Fundamentals of our Faith*.

A Few Beginning Thoughts

I grew up believing there was only one way to view this (Creation) – and if I didn't view it in that way – I probably wasn't saved.

I also found that within our Baptist churches that there is a huge variance of beliefs – but the tendency is to hold to dogmatism

Dogmatism give us certainty. Certainty makes us right. Being right gives us privileges.

The Methods of Approach

“The problem of creation is one of cause and effect. Behind each effect we look for a cause.”

Arguments against intelligent design/Creation are arguments against all that they see but cannot understand.

There are three possibilities to dealing with this problem.

1. The _____
 - a. We have to use material (verifiable) science and philosophy (theoretical)
 - b. This concludes with three possibilities
 - i. Atheistic – no god
 - ii. Deistic – absent god
 - iii. Pantheistic – the universe is god; god is the universe
2. The _____
 - a. Revelation (according to their understanding) as opposed to the mind.
 - i. This puts the scientist and the theologian at war with each other
 - ii. The example of Galileo proves the ridiculousness of this war
 1. Now, we like to think that we're Baptist and not Catholic but we're certainly susceptible to the same behavior
3. The _____
 - a. Theologians don't know all there is to know about God
 - b. Scientists don't know all there is to know about nature

The Origin of the Universe

The date for the Creation of the Universe – according to Scriptures –

1. Every scientist that sets a date does so outside of the realm of Scripture.
 - a. They are taking leaps – just like others have done
2. Some 'SPACE' for the beginning
 - a. The problem with the word 'yom'
 - i. 24 hour day – Genesis 8:4
 - ii. A short period – 2 Kings 19:3, Psalm 20:1
 - iii. Great events – Isaiah 13:6, Jeremiah 46:10
 - iv. Unlimited time or age – Isaiah 65:2
 - b. *"The question isn't what God needed, but what he chose to use"*
3. The cause of Creation
 - a. To have matter you must have the possibility of mind
4. Act and order of Creation
 - a. Caused and formation

Lessons from Creation

The revelation of God

From the beginning

Plural but unified

The reality of man

In the image (reflection) of God

Able to choose to worship

Purpose

The redemption

Promise and hope

He makes all things new