

Sermon Notes
“Can Science and Faith live together?”
Colossians 1:15-20
October 25, 2020

Science and theology are like the thumb and fingers on our hands – we need both to grasp reality. We rely upon science. Science is not an enemy; it is a gift.

Christianity and Modern Science

- Genesis 1:1: Because the world is created by God, it can be understood.
- Psalm 19:1: Because the world is created by God, discovering God’s glory in creation is an act of worship.
- Sir Isaac Newton wrote the most famous book in the history of science because he wanted people to believe in God. Great scientists like Copernicus, Galileo, and Newton were Christians.

How Science “works”

- Science observes, measures, experiments, and develops theories.
“Scientism”
- The belief that science provides the only truth. Scientism says everything can only be explained scientifically: love is brain chemistry, the universe is naturally existing, human beings are just chemicals
- Scientism pushes faith and God out

How do we answer these challenges?

- Remember what science is and isn’t
 - ◊ John Lennox and the story of the aunt’s cake
 - ◊ Science and the question “Why?”
 - ◊ Scientists overreach – they make scientific statements about matters that are not scientific
- Remember our existence raises questions science cannot answer
 - ◊ “The Unreasonable Effectiveness of Mathematics in the Natural Sciences”
 - ◊ Albert Einstein: “The most incomprehensible thing about the universe is that it is comprehensible.”
 - ◊ The weakness of the multi-verse theory
- Remember, truth always points to God
 - ◊ Story of George Lemaitre and Edwin Hubble’s discovery of the expanding universe
 - ◊ The universe has an origin, as Genesis 1:1 says
- Remember, Christ is the supreme goal of science
 - ◊ Colossians 1:15-20
 - ◊ “...in him all things hold together” (Colossians 1:17b)
 - ◊ Ian Hutchinson, Christian physicist and professor at M.I.T.: “[Christ] continuously holds the universe in the palm of his hand. ... It exists because of his continuous creative power and will: if he were to stop exerting that upholding power, stop paying attention to every part of the universe, it would instantly cease to exist.”

So:

- Don’t be afraid of science. Remember Isaac Newton.
- Consider Jesus because science cannot answer the deepest needs of the human soul – the search for meaning and eternal life

- Only Jesus bridges the gap between God and each of us