

# Sermon Notes

## Christianity's Greatest Questions: Science vs Religion

### November 23-24<sup>th</sup>, 2019

Remember, small groups are primarily for growing closer relationships with other believers. We can learn wonderful things in this environment but keep relationships first.

- **Christianity's Greatest Questions**
- This series is in the line of apologetics/defending the faith based on my experiences and questions.
  - o Set the stage for curiosity: Not social pressure to conform, but freedom to explore the things of God.
- **Last Week: Can I Trust the Bible?**
  - o Short answer is YES!! We talked about a lot of stuff, but let me recap a big problem:
  - o Problem: Many Christians don't seem to see the Bible in the right way.
    - Bible as trivia or pointless religious observance vs Holy Word of God.
      - Bible is not God, nor the way to God, but the map of the way to God!
    - Super detailed intellectual/theological doctrines but miss the basic points.
      - How smart do you have to be to follow Jesus? Do what you know first...
- **This week: Science vs Religion**
- Science and Religion need not be in conflict for the honest follower of Jesus. **Romans 1:16-20**
  - o Here Paul describes what is often called the Design Argument. Seeing God in creation. (v20)
    - I agree we can see God in creation...but I didn't always see God in creation.
    - Before I got saved I didn't see God in creation, I saw normal scientific atheism. Now...
  - o Is this a contradiction in the Bible? Does everyone see God in creation??
    - Another context: God is both revealing Himself and hiding Himself. **Matthew 13:10-13**
      - True both of general and special revelation. Get your heart right. **Matthew 5:8**
- I tried to prove God's existence. That should be possible, right???
  - o My 5 arguments: Time, Free Will, Human Equality, Consciousness, God exists or He will.
  - o This hit a brick wall since these things seem to polarize rather than evangelize and are easily dismissed by people who don't want to believe.
    - Why don't some scientists believe? Because they are smart people looking at evidence, but with a different set of basic assumptions than the follower of Jesus.
      - Let's initiate respect rather than expect it from them.
      - As a young earth creationist I need to know what I look like to them.
        - o (example of evidence with different assumptions – feeding of the 5,000)
- We don't need proof to have rational faith in God.
  - o All we really need to have room for rational faith is to doubt atheism as absolute fact.
  - o Science actually helps us with that!! Big Bang, Dark Matter, String Theory, Multiverse.
    - Bottom line: really really smart people see way beyond 3 dimensional atheism! That's room!
  - o Theory/Evidence form of thought vs faith in God form of thought from Kurt P Wise.
    - My problem was trying to fit Christian content into an atheistic form of thought.
- I didn't come to Christ through science. God intervened in my life and I put my faith in him.
  - o "Trust me," is not science, but it is how God calls people into His family. **Romans 1:16-17**
- Let's finish with the story of Thomas. (My middle name, Dad's name, wife's maiden name!!)
- **John 20:19-29**
  - o There is a blessing in trusting Jesus. I thought I had forfeited that blessing, but now I see...
  - o Do you want this blessing? Then it is time to walk by faith.
- Pray for each other before you finish up!