

The Science Against Itself

By Pat McIntosh

If we were to discuss creation and the existence of God with a friend who believed in the Bible, we would turn to obvious biblical passages such as Genesis 1:1 and John 1:1-3. Those passages clearly reflect the existence of God and the roles of the Godhead in the creation process. The very first verse of the Bible clearly affirms the existence of God. The remainder of the Bible is built upon and substantiates that opening affirmation of God's existence.

If we were to have the same discussion with someone who did not share our belief in the inspired word, a different approach would have to be taken. Those who believe in evolution claim that science "disproves" the existence of God and "proves" that evolution is the process through which all things came to exist. In reality, "true" science supports the biblical view of God's existence and creation. No, it does not do so by name. It does do so, however, in principle. Let us look at a couple of examples from scientific laws.

The first example we will consider is that the Law of Cause and Effect. The law of cause and effect indicates that "every effect must have an adequate and antecedent cause." If you were to walk into your kitchen and notice a vase full of flowers on the table, you would not assume that they mere appeared there. The law of cause and effect would indicate that something with adequate ability would have placed the flowers there before you walked in and saw them. Hence, the existence of the universe is evidence of a being with adequate ability

"placing" (creating) the universe before placing man there. The fact that man exists is evidence of the same law of science. The Bible calls the "adequate being" God.

A second argument that can be made from a secular perspective (but is a scriptural one as well) is the fact that "design demands a designer." This argument is similar to if not a subset of the previous argument and likewise indicates a supreme supernatural source for the existence of the universe. A simplified explanation for the evolutionary arguments is that life began from a basic molecular form and evolved into the complicated systems of our universe today. Even basic secular illustrations show the fallacy of this line of argumentation. Many of us wear watches. If we would remove the watch from our wrist, remove the back, and observe we would notice the power behind this illustration. Looking inside the watch we will find gears, springs, dials and other equipment all assembled in such a way that, for the most part, these watches keep good time. The argument that things "just happened that way" would be similar to saying that a watch was produced by a tornado moving through a wrecking yard and simply "spitting out a functioning watch." The watch itself serves as a witness that something capable of designing such a piece of equipment did so before we had the opportunity to purchase it.

When we observe the universe, we see a complicated system with an all but enumerable number of parts. Yet, we see it operate with amazing precision and consistency. We can

launch a rocket from the earth and send it to the moon. Yes, numerous calculations are made, but are made based upon the order of the universe. The earth's orbit around the sun determines our seasons, and that order just happens to be perfect.

Whether we are arguing from secular scientific arguments or analyzing the inspired Scriptures, the evidence points to a Creator, a source capable of producing the universe. May our faith continue

to grow, not from the secular arguments, but from the Scriptures which attest to God's power, omniscience, and eternity. The mysteries and majesty of the universe attest to the glory of the God of heaven (Ps. 19:1).

Pat McIntosh works with the Granbury Street Church of Christ in Cleburne, TX

Do You Know Him Or Know Of Him?

Article Selected

God speaks of Himself as simply "I Am." This is one powerful statement depicts His infinite presence and His existence through every age. What does it mean to know Him? How do you know if you do? To know of Jesus is very different than knowing Him.

John is one of those books in the New Testament that will help us to become better acquainted with the Christ. John paints us a vivid picture of who He was and is on a deeper level than even the three previous books.

He's the Bread of life, Light of the world, the Gate, Good Shepherd, Resurrection and Life, the Truth, and the Vine. All of these titles found within the book teach us a little more about the Savior of the world. There are seven "I Am" statements in John referring to Jesus and three hundred throughout the entire Bible. They begin in Genesis and end in Revelation, and in many books in-between. You just can't read very far without discovering something very profound about it's Writer.

He's eternal. God's desired response to this is simply for us to believe, respond, and live with our minds and hearts prepared to live with Him. When Jesus describes Himself as the "I Am" it makes the religious leaders want to kill Him in John 8. To know Jesus, to really know Him, is

something that many people have not fully understood. Even as Jesus walked among us mortals and witnessed His miraculous power there were still several that didn't realize what it meant to follow Him Luke 9:57-62.

While it's true that everyone is made in the image of God, few reflect the Father's image. Those that know Jesus introduce others to Him. With the knowledge that we are imperfect, let's not forget that we also have the ability to have a relationship with Him. I am flawed and I am weak, but the Great I Am is interested in who I am.

By the grace of God, I am His child. He is the bread of life that sustains us, the light that guides us, the gate we'll walk through, and the truth that will save us. It's not how great I am, but how great the Great I Am is. Do you know Jesus?



Upcoming Events

Friday, Dec. 3– Ladies Ornament Exchange at the home of Kasi Jobs at 6:30 pm. Please bring finger foods and an ornament to exchange.

Sun. Dec. 5– Monthly Potluck luncheon after morning worship with a 1pm afternoon service.

Mon. Dec. 6– Teen Bible Basics @6:30pm at the building.

Thurs. Dec.9– Teens Takeaway Thursday @ 6:30pm at the Scherffius home.

Sat. Dec. 11–Kids Gingerbread house decorating at 10am at the building.

Sun. Dec. 12– Youth Devo after evening services at the home of the Scherffius’.

Dec. 19–White Elephant gift exchange at the building after evening worship services. Please bring a gift for the exchange.

Dec. 31–New Year’s Eve fellowship at the building @ 7pm. Please bring games and finger foods.

Registration for the Southwest Youth retreat at Camp Hensel has begun.

Prayer List

Prayer Requests

Guadalupe Rodriguez, who asks for prayers for his daughter, Sunday. Letty Randle, who asked for prayers for her family.

Members

Jeff Cannady, Les Daltry, Scott DeDear, Ken and Sandra Marie, Ann Pantel, Veronica Serenil, Clark Withers, Dee Gilpatrick, Faye Henderson, Sandy Malone.

NEW CLASS QUARTER!

Wednesday, Dec. 1st begins our new class quarter. Thank you to the teachers who give their time to teach our classes. We appreciate you!

Service Roster

Week of November 28, 2021

Sunday Morning

Announcements.....Jesse Moser
Scripture Reading.....Isaac Jobs
Song Leader Doug Jobs

Opening PrayerBryant Siegel
Closing Prayer..... Steve Randle

Lord’s Supper & Offering

Bread..... Ronnie Scherffius
Cup..... Ron White
Offering..... Lupe Escojido
Assist.....Fred Scherffius
Assist..... Clifton Rutherford
Assist..... Will Burleson

Sunday Evening

Announcements.....Jesse Moser
Song Leader Kevin Sheeran

Opening Prayer Leon Morales
Closing Prayer.....Isaac Jobs

Lord’s Supper & Offering.....Lupe Escojido & Clifton Rutherford

Wednesday Evening

Adult Class..... Ronnie Scherffius
Song LeaderFred Scherffius
Devotional Ron White

Other

Usher.....Allen Clifton
Prepare Communion Bass

Congregational News

Birthdays

June FielderDec. 1
Jackie Rutherford..... Dec. 3
Kin Marie Dec. 4

Food Helpers for the month of November - Team A.
There is a list of teams on the bulletin board.

If you have any prayer requests or upcoming events to be announced, please contact our secretary, Nina Siegel, at (361) 573-0030.

Our Elders

Mark FitzSimmons
Ronnie Scherffius
Ron White

Our Deacons

James Cammock—Evangelism
Lupe Escojido— Benevolence
Bryant Siegel—Education and Finance

Our Preacher

Ronnie Scherffius

Weekly Reading

*“Ye are the salt of the earth”
Matthew 5:13*

Service Times

Sunday Morning Bible Class.....9:00 A.M.
Sunday Morning Worship.....10:00 A.M.
Sunday Evening Worship.....5:00 P.M.
Wednesday Bible Class.....7:00 P.M.

Attendance Records

Week of November 21, 2021

A.M. Bible Class.....76
A.M. Worship.....108
P.M. Worship.....65
Wednesday Bible Class.....68

Offering week of November 21, 2021.....\$ 3,309

Supported Works

Mani Pagidipalli *India*
John & Carla Moore *Bible Land Passages*
Anthony Scherffius *Southwest School of Bible Studies*

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Weekly Communication! To receive the *Midtown Messenger* and other congregational news to your inbox each week, please email events.midtowncoc@gmail.com.