

Rev. Matthew Versemann  
Trinity Lutheran Church  
Decatur, Illinois  
Creation Series – Part 2  
6 Days vs Billions of Years  
June 14<sup>th</sup>, 2020

## Six Days Versus Billions Of Years

God's PEACE is ALWAYS YOURS in Jesus.

Hear the Word of God from Exodus 20,

"Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work.....For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but he rested on the seventh day. Therefore, the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy."

DEAR FRIENDS IN CHRIST,

As we saw last week, the question of origins – where everything came from – is not a choice between faith and science, for both Christianity and Evolution are religious beliefs. Both Divine Creation by the Triune God, and Evolution by chance require faith or belief – because neither the Christian Creationist, nor the Evolutionist can go back in time to use the scientific method, to scientifically prove where everything came from. Yet, there are "GRAVE" implications depending upon which 'belief' you place your faith in. You will either believe that all things were Divinely created by the Triune God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit – out of nothing, by His Word, in six, 24 hour days; and that you are the deliberate and precious artwork of a loving creator Who wanted you, and so He chose to create you to live with Him, forever, in a perfect paradise, and that all of the suffering and death that we face and an intrusion into God's perfect plan, not caused by God, but by man's sins.

Your other option is that you'll believe the Evolutionist, and their "triune god" of Father Time (the belief in billions of years), Mother Nature (things evolved via nature's selection), and Lady Luck (everything came about by chance, that matter was here by chance, that a Big Bang created the universe by chance, the life spontaneously generated from non-living matter, by chance; and that all of life evolved from that first cell, by chance.). According to Evolution, you are the accidental by-product of a cold blind process – that life emerged by chance, from an ancient soup of non-living matter, and eventually, over billions of year, your ancestors came out of the trees from monkeys, and that suffering and pain, disease and death are all a normal part of life, and when you die, you cease to exist, so your life has no ultimate meaning. Those are the two options that you have for the foundation of your life: Divine Creation, based on the truth of God's Word, or blind Evolution based on the truth of man's word. So somebodies lying, and I'mbettin' you it ain't God.

Now the operative question is this: *Which belief is the best belief in which to believe?* Remember, although Creation and Evolution are both faith systems, or religious beliefs, that doesn't mean that Christianity, and our belief in Creation, is a blind faith, for our Creator, in the second person of the Trinity, Jesus Christ, entered human history, and paid a visit to planet earth, and He tells us He created it in Mark 13, and elsewhere, and He backed up that His Words are the truth by the miracles He performed, and by His resurrection from the dead. Whereas, the Evolutionists' faith rests on the words of dead men, like Charles Darwin, who are, in fact, still very dead.

Proverbs 30:5-6 tells us, "***Every Word of God is flawless. He is a shield to those who take refuge in Him. DO NOT ADD TO HIS WORDS, or He will rebuke you, and prove you to be a liar.***"

The said fact is that many, well-meaning, but misguided Christians, want to ADD evolution and mans' opinions to God's Word; and usually it's not because they've truly studied the issues, it's simply because we're tempted by the devil to believe that the Evolutionists just can't be wrong.....why....they wear white lab-coats, and carry #2 Bic pencils in their pockets. But you need to know, that when you insist that "*the evolusionists can't be wrong*", and you add evolution to the Bible; what you're saying is that "*God and His Word can be, and are, wrong.*" Do you see a problem with this? Evolutionists can't be wrong! God can be wrong! Remember Proverbs 30, "***DO NOT ADD TO HIS WORDS, or He will rebuke you, and prove you to be a liar.***" ***Page 2***

Let me ask you: Are evolutionists sinful? Yes. Do they know all things? No! Do they make mistakes? Yes. Were they there when everything came into existence? No! Are they biased? Yes. Can they go back in time to test their theory? No! Do they regularly change their theories? Yes.

Now let me ask you: Is God sinful? No! Does He know all things? Yes! Does He make mistakes? No! Was He there when everything came into existence? Yes. Did He cause it? Yes. Is God biased? Only for the truth. Does He or His word change? No!

So why is it, when the evolutionist tells us something that goes against God's Word, why are we always so ready to accept what they say, and doubt what God tells us? Who do you think cares about your life more? The evolutionist or God, Who sent His Son to lay down His life for us, and redeem us from the death, that is an intrusion into life caused by our sins? Luther says, "*If at some point you cannot understand the Scriptures, give the Holy Spirit the honor of being more learned than you are!*"

It's time for Christians to let God tell us what He did, rather than insisting that we tell Him what He did. Thus, as we learned last week, our belief in Divine Creation can be summarized like this, from Luther's Small Catechism. "*We believe that God – the Triune God....*

- *Created everything in the universe,*
- *Out of nothing,*
- *By His Word,*
- *In six, normal, 24 hours days.*

So where does God's Word teach that, Pastor? Psalm 33 says, "***By the word of the LORD the heavens were made, their starry host by the breath of his mouth.... For he spoke, and it came to be; he commanded, and it stood firm.***" And, in Exodus 20:11, God's Word says, "***For in six days, the Lord made the heavens, the earth, the seas, and everything that is in them.***"

There's a cartoon of a little boy and a little girl talking about God's creation. And the little boy asks the little girl: "Six Days?". And the little girl says, "Yep! Six days!" So the little boy asks her again, "Six, Truly, Really, Literal days?" "Yep! Six, Truly, Really, Literal Days!" The little boy then holds up the Bible and says, "Are you sure it says six days?" And for the third time, the little girl said, "Yep! It says Six Days!" To which the little boy says, "*I wonder why it took so long?*"      **Page 3**

And that's actually the proper response that one should have, when you know God's Word, that, "***Nothing is impossible with God.***" We often don't want to believe in a six day creation, simply because we want to add the opinions of sinful men, who were not there, who are biased, who make mistakes, who do not know everything, and who are constantly revising their theories, to God's Word, to tell God what He did. Why do we do this? It's because we 'assume' that evolutionists are experts, who can't or don't make mistakes. My favorite answer to that is that the definition of an expert is: "*someone who lives more than 30 miles away, and carries a brief case.*" We need to have a little less faith in biased, fragile evolutionists, and a little more faith in our rock solid, creator and redeemer.

The reality is, God could have created everything in six seconds if He wanted to. Why didn't He? We're told why in the Bible. Once again, God's Word has the answers. He actually took LONGER than He needed to, to create the universe and everything in it – six days, instead of six seconds – for OUR BENEFIT. Exodus 20 explains why the Lord took six days, when it says, "***Six days you shall labor, and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath day – a rest day – to the Lord, your God; for in six days the Lord made the heavens, the earth, the seas, and all that is in them. But He rested on the seventh day, and blessed it and made it holy.***" Often times, as parents, we would never consider robbing our children of sports, a good education, the arts, fun, vacation, you name it. So why do we consider it an option to rob them of their spiritual rest – of God's rest for their souls – that God wants to give to them, and to us parents, by cutting them off from God's Word on the Sabbath day, which the Lord intentionally created for the purpose of making sure our children, and us parents, know for certain, that we are artistically created by God with a great purpose and plan for our lives, and that we are loved, forgiven, and at peace with God, and in Jesus alone, do we know how to get out of our graves alive, and live forever in paradise?

Parents, I'm going to lay it on the line, we need to teach and model to our children that there is nothing more important in life than resting our souls in Jesus' forgiveness and being able to get out of our graves alive on the last day, to live forever in heaven. When you and I begin to compromise on the importance of God's Word – and make sports, money, fun, and entertainment more important than Jesus – the next generation will be worse off spiritually than we are, until eventually they lose their faith in Jesus entirely, and let there be no mistake about it, what's at stake, parents, is eternity. **Pg 4**

Long story short, God took six days, rather than six seconds, to create the entire universe, in order to give us a pattern for our lives; that we are to work six days, and then the seventh day is to be a rest days, which we are to keep Holy to the Lord, as we rest our souls in Jesus' forgiveness, life, and salvation. That's God's pattern for living.

Now, with that said, let's look specifically at the issue of the SIX days of creation. So, why is it that the only place that Christians question the word "day", in the Bible, is in Genesis 1? For a final time, it's because we believe that sinful evolutionists just can't be wrong – so we assume that God can be, and is wrong – and so, we add millions and billions of years to the Bible. That's why we question the meaning of the word "day" in Genesis 1.

(PLEASE SEE THE HANDOUT ON SIX DAYS.)

Now, the Hebrew Word for Day is "YOM", and it means, an ordinary, 24 hour day. There's only a couple of exceptions in the Bible when it means something other than an ordinary, 24 hour day, and in those two exceptions, the context clearly indicates it. But its normal meaning is an ordinary, 24 hour day, or a solar day, with an evening and a morning – one revolution of the earth on its' axis.

Why is it that we never question the meaning of the word "day" outside of Genesis 1? For example, when the Bible says that, "***Jonah was in the belly of the whale for 3 days***", how come no one says that Jonah was in the belly of the whale for 3 million years. You can almost imagine Jonah with a walker walking around inside the belly of the whale, and the whale is so old, he's in a convalescent home for whales, and wearing tri-focals. Or, as you look at your handout, why don't we every question the meaning of the word "day" when the Bible says that the Israelites march around the city of Jericho for seven days. Why don't we question whether it was really seven million years, because people don't live that long. You can almost imagine the Israelites walking around Jericho with a parade of walkers, and electronic scooters, wondering if the walls would ever come a-tumbling down.

The reason we only question the meaning of the word "day" in Genesis 1, is because again, we assume that sinful evolutionists are experts because they live more than 30 miles away, and carry a briefcase, and just can't be wrong, but God can be. **Page 5**

It's time for Christians to repent of our "little faith" and truth the Word of The God, Who was there when He made everything, Who knows all things, Who is not sinful, Who is only biased to the truth, Who never makes mistakes, and who never revises His Word, And Who can do all things, to tell us how all of the present got here.

And so you see on the bottom right of your handout the picture of a 'scientist' and a 'theologian', and the scientist says: "*The Bible is not true! These rock layers show that the earth is millions of years old! You have to believe me because I'm a scientist.*" And often time, just like we're tempted to believe, the theologian says, "*Well, I'll just accept the millions of years, and add it to the Bible.*" And what you've just taught your children is that "*You can trust evolutionists, and man's word; but you can't trust God and His Word.*" Just believe in Jesus! And then we wonder why our children are falling away from the faith. And it's because we told them they can't trust the first five chapters of the Bible, or the hundreds of other Bible verses, that talk about God's creation, but then we tell them to trust the Bible when it talks about Jesus saving us.

So how can we know that word "DAY" actually means "DAY" in Genesis 1, other than the fact that the word "YOM" literally means a normal, 24 hour day. Look at the back side of your hand out for the answer to this, in the right hand column. Whenever the word "YOM" or "DAY" is used in the Bible with a number, outside of Genesis 1, which is 410 times, it always means an ordinary day, as we know a day to be, and the texts wouldn't make any sense if they meant anything else.

But let's not stop there. Whenever the Bible uses the phrase "evening and morning" outside of Genesis 1, which is 38 times, it always means a normal 24 hour days, as we know a day to be, and the texts wouldn't make any sense if they meant anything else.

But let's not stop there. Whenever the Bible uses the word "evening" or "morning" with the word 'DAY' in the Bible, which is 23 times outside of Genesis 1, it always means a normal, 24 hour days, as we know a day to be, and the texts wouldn't make any sense if they meant anything else.

And do you know why I think the Lord was so redundantly specific about the six days of creation in Genesis 1, is because He knows all things, and He knew the lie that the devil would bring forth through sinners to doubt the truth of God's Word from the very beginning of the Bible, or from the very foundations of the world, so that we would then doubt the Bible about Jesus Christ saving us from sin, death, and the devil.

*So it's almost as if God said, “I'm going to create the whole universe in six days, followed by a day of rest, as a pattern for mankind's life. And to make it clear to them, that I mean six days, I'll use the word “YOM” which means a normal 24 hour day. But because some of them will be tempted to listen to the devil's lies, and may be a little slow on the uptake, I'll also add a number to each day – first day, second day, and so forth – so that they'll get the point that I really mean “DAY”. And for those who are really prone to believe the devil's lies, and the words of men, and are really, really challenged on the UPTAKE of truth, I'll also add “evening” and “morning” to each day. Thus, there was evening and morning the first day, there was evening and morning the second day, and all the way through to the end of the six days.”* Folks, the Lord could not be more clear that when He said six days, He meant six days, and rather than trusting experts with lab coats, #2 pencils, and briefcases, we need to give God the honor of being more learned than we are.

Let me give a couple of examples to back this up, before I close. Example One is from the Mt. Saint Helen's Volcanic eruption in Washington State in the 1980's. Now let me preface this example by saying, that no matter what National Park we go to we always are fed a diet of Evolutionary Blah...Blah.... so when we go to the Grand Canyon for example, we're always told that in the canyon you can see the layers upon layers of sedimentary rock, and each layer represents millions of years of formation and sedimentation. But, as I always like to say, God has a great sense of humor, if you're just ready to listen and learn. So when Mt. Saint Helen's erupted in the 1980's it formed a canyon 1/40<sup>th</sup> the size of the Grand Canyon. Did it take millions of years? Not at all. It only took between 24-48 hours to form that canyon. And if you go to that canyon, or see videos of it, you can actually see layer upon layer of sedimentation that we're laid down, not over millions of years, but over a matter of hours. So it's time we start trusting the true expert, the Lord and His Word, when He tells us about how everything got here.

And then, as a second example, if you try to add Evolution to God's word, then what you're saying is that there were millions and billions of years of suffering and pain, fighting and bloodshed, disease and death, and animals and pre-humans ripping each other to pieces before Adam and Eve. And what you've just done, first of all is you've turned the Garden of Eden and Planet earth into one giant graveyard, and you expect God to look at THAT, and still say, "Behold! It is very good!" But, even more than than, the Bible tells us in Romans 5 that, "***Sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin.***" Which means there was no death before Adam and Eve sinned, which means there was no millions of years of evolutionary death, and species and pre-humans ripping each other to pieces. In fact, Genesis 3 clearly teaches that it was Adam and Eve's sin that gave rise to all these things of disease, suffering, pain, and death; and none of these things were NORMAL, as evolution proposes. They are ALL ABNORMAL for God created us to live, with Him, forever, in a perfect paradise

In closing, when we call into question the truth of Genesis 1-11, simply because we're tempted to believe that evolutionists can't be wrong – and we forget about the devil's power to deceive mankind – we not only call into the question the truth of the rest of the Bible, but we also call into question the truth of our salvation. For it is in Genesis 3 that the Lord gives us the first promise of our Savior, Jesus, who would come to crush the devil. Genesis 3:15 says, "***I will put enmity between you (satan), and between the woman (first referring to Eve, and later to Mary), and between your offspring (satan) and her offspring (and the woman's offspring is Jesus, born of Mary). He (Jesus) will crush your head (satan), and you (satan) will bruise his heels.***" And of course that happened, when Jesus willingly allowed Himself to be nailed to the cross for us and our salvation, to save us not only from our evil deeds, but also from our sinful thinking, and little faith. And finally, it's also in Genesis 3, that we see the second promise of Jesus, our Savior. We're told that God made garments of skin for Adam and Eve, and clothed them. But where does one get garments of skin? You get garments of skin from animals, of course. Which means that God killed some innocent animal, in order to cloth Adam and Eve's sinful nakedness. In the same way, God introduced the sacrifice of His only Son Jesus, so that we could be redeemed, and stand before God, covered in the righteousness of Jesus, to live with Him, forever, in Paradise. All in Jesus. Amen.