Pastor Jeremy M. Thomas Fredericksburg Bible Church

107 East Austin Fredericksburg, Texas 78624 830-997-8834 jthomas@fbgbible.org

THE LIMITATIONS OF MAN

- 1. Is creation a part of the creator? Is the creator a part of creation? Is man a part of the creation? Is nature a part of creation? Is man a part of nature? Is nature a part of man?
 - No. No. Yes. Yes. No. No.
- 2. Give some examples of how patterns carry information but how the information is only accessible to those who know the language? Explain how this applies to nature's design.
 - Languages, Morse Code, DNA. Nature is a medium through which we hear God's voice, if we are on speaking terms with Him. If we are in rebellion then we are don't want to hear His voice. So, we plug our ears, we close our eyes.
- 3. How is man physically limited?
 - Man's body is dependent on parts of God's universe, e.g. oxygen, gravity, the tree of life, etc...If man had not fallen then he could have lived forever. Man's body was designed to live forever. Death is a result of sin.
- 4. Explain Job 24:12-14. What did virtually everyone believe from the time of the Greeks until the 19th century? What were the two major intellectual events of the 19th century? Explain the problem mathematicians faced when they thought about Euclid's parallel line axiom? What were the two responses by mathematicians? What did the discovery of non-Euclidean geometries demonstrate? In your own words describe the three geometries and explain why this is a problem for man. How did what Kurt Gödel prove, totally destroys all pagan claims to knowledge? The world thought it was well on it's way to figuring out the universe when this discovery took place and crushed the pagan claims. What was the pagan response? What does the pagan mind desire in terms of knowledge? What must the pagan

man do to salvage knowledge? Put another way, where does paganism locate its constants? What are some of those constants?

Knowledge cannot be found in the land of the living. You cannot start with man. If you start with man you can live forever and you'll never get it all together. Virtually everyone believed that you had these axioms and they were "selfevident" and man's reason could build from these axioms and get to truth. In other words, man's reason could get to truth outside of him in nature. Darwin's mechanism of evolution as natural selection and the discovery of non-Euclidean geometries. Mathematicians realized that the parallel line axiom was not "self-evident". It was an unconfirmed guess. We don't know what the line does way out in space to the left or to the right. Mathematician's developed two new non-Euclidean geometries. One, Riemannian said there were no parallel lines that could pass through a point not on the line and not intersect with the other line (convex geometry) and the second, Lobatchevskian said there were an infinite number of parallel lines that could pass through a point not on the line and not intersect with the other line (concave geometry). The Euclidean geometry fits works in a plane and claims one parallel line. Riemannian geometry works in a sphere and claims no parallel lines. Lobatchevskian geometry works in a concave surface and claims an infinite number of parallel lines. These three geometries were internally logically consistent but they contradicted one another. What then was the real geometry that fit the universe? Man's logic machine could pump out logical system after logical system but could not figure out which system fit the universe. This destroyed the pagan's attempt to get to truth through applying logical rigor to axiomatic systems. What Kurt Gödel showed was that even within logically consistent systems there were axioms that could not be proved by the system without contradicting the system. This sent the pagan world into a deep and stunning depression. Man was cut off from truth. He could not have real knowledge of the universe outside of himself (it is not in the land of the living). The pagan insists he have godlike omniscience or zero knowledge. He will not tolerate a humble dependence on God. The pagan must ground constants down here in the creation. Some of these include, decay rates, radioactive decay rates, speed of light, gravitational constant, erosion rates, etc...Present processes are the key to the Past.

- 5. What are the limitations of man's experience? Explain the chart depicting space and time that I passed out. What do all pagans build their knowledge on? When a person claims that the universe is 20 billion years old how do they come up with that number? How do they know that?
 - Man is limited in space and time. I have my direct observation and I can extend that observation via telescope, microscope, and high speed film but I cannot go back in time before eye witness historical testimony. I would need a time machine to do that. Nor can I go forward in time. I cannot know that the next piece of data will not totally invalidate everything I know, what's right, wrong, true, false, it could all be wiped out. All pagans use reason and experience. They come up with that number by assuming the constancy of the speed of light and applying that to the past (starlight). We rarely hear of the horizon problem in Big Bang Theory, the problem with a 20 billion year old universe in getting light from one galaxy to another, they need more time. They don't know that, it's a conjecture, a speculation.
- 6. What is a natural history? If constants are not in the creation but the Creator then why isn't everything chaos and how is knowledge possible?
 - A natural history is an explanation for a sequence of events, the age of the universe, the tongues phenomena in Acts 2, the resurrection of Lazarus, driving to work, etc... Everything is not chaos and knowledge is possible because the Creator doesn't change and His plan doesn't change. He's always in control.

Back To The Top

Copyright (c) Fredericksburg Bible Church 2007