

In All of Our Service, Christ is the Key

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Can we really ask people to believe our personal testimonies of salvation in Christ in this age of naturalistic science?

To pose a similar question, how can people who are influenced by the rampant evolutionism that is now taught almost everywhere really understand the creation record in Genesis?

In either case, the answer is not found in presenting rationalistic arguments and evidences because “the natural [unregenerate] man,” however brilliant, “does not receive the things of the Spirit of God.” In fact, “they are foolishness to him; nor can he know *them*, because they are spiritually discerned” (1 Cor. 2:14).

We thank God for the enormous avalanche of recently-discovered evidences of supernatural design in the universe above us and the living world around and within us. Even more amazing are discoveries of the recent origin of our oceans and fossil-filled rock strata – and even radioactive elements – by creation scientists.

But to understand spiritual truth, such as the significance of Genesis 1 and 2, we must first know who the Creator Himself really is. As the chief of the apostles expressed it, before we “*give* a defense to everyone who asks [us] a reason for the hope that is in [us],” we must first “sanctify [that is set apart, honor, respect] the Lord God in [our] hearts.” Then, and then only, are we truly “ready to *give* a defense to everyone...with meekness and fear” (1 Pet. 3:15).

When our Lord healed a man born blind – a miracle that had never been experienced in human history (cf. John 9:32, 33) – He said: “‘For judgment I have come into this world, that those who do not see may see, and that those who see may be made blind.’ Then

some of the Pharisees who were with Him heard these words, and said to Him, ‘Are we blind also?’ Jesus said to them, ‘If you were blind, you would have no sin; but now you say, “We see.” Therefore your sin remains’ (John 9:39-41).

Here, then, is the ultimate issue: If people reject the light of the world, in whose image and likeness we were originally created – which is special revelation – how can they possibly repent and believe by looking at the vastly dimmer light of general revelation?

No, they must first believe in the very Son of God – “through Whom” God the Father "made the worlds" (Heb. 1:2); by Whom "all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth" (Col. 1:16); the One Who "is before all things" and by Whom "all things consist" (Col. 1:17); the One without Whom "nothing was made that was made" (John 1:3); the One Who "was in the world, and the world was made through Him" (John 1:10); the "one Lord Jesus Christ, through whom *are* all things, and through whom we *live*" (1 Cor. 8:6); the One "in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge" (Col. 2:3) – the ultimate Intelligent Designer of all things.

Christ is the key to understanding the origin of the world that He made. And He is the key to our ministries of witnessing, preaching and teaching – including home-schooling. We must devote ourselves to Him to have success in these endeavors.

Thus, if we truly love people (that is, to do for them what is best in the light of eternity, no matter what the price or cost may be to us), we must patiently, prayerfully and consistently tell them God's answers, through Christ, to the questions of ultimate origins, meaning and destiny.

I will be forever grateful that the man God used to rescue me from materialistic evolutionism at Princeton University in 1943 did not apply a rationalistic wedge to my mind by the use of lengthy or complex arguments. Instead, he simply shared the gospel of Christ with me.

That man was Donald B. Fullerton, a 1913 graduate of the university and a veteran missionary to India and Afghanistan who returned to his alma mater in 1931 to establish the Princeton Evangelical Fellowship – a ministry that, by God’s grace, continues to influence students for Christ to the present day.

May God give us such faithful, enduring and spiritually fruitful ministries – grounded in the pure Word of God!

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