

Dates, Darwin and Dinosaurs

Seven Rivers Presbyterian Church, Winter 2017

CLASS SCHEDULE

January 18	Unit 1	<i>In the beginning...</i> Science and Faith, Evidences for God, The Big Bang and creation ex nihilo
January 25	Unit 2	<i>And there was evening and there was morning...</i> Young Earth vs. Old Earth, Days of Creation
February 1	Unit 3	<i>Male and female he created them...</i> Adam and Eve, Darwin, Evolution , The Problem of Morality
February 8	Unit 4	<i>Rain fell upon the earth forty days and forty nights...</i> Noah and the Flood
February 15	Unit 5	<i>Enquiring minds want to know...</i> Cain, Enoch, Methuselah, The Nephilim, The Tower of Babel, Dinosaurs

UNIT 1

IN THE BEGINNING...

I/ Science and Faith

A. Similarities

- i. Both ask _____
- ii. Both are based on _____

B. Science vs. Faith?

“Great are the works of the LORD, studied by all who delight in them.” –Psalm 111:2

“The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork. Day to day pours out speech, and night to night reveals knowledge.” –Psalm 19:1-2

“Christ never meant that we were to remain children in *intelligence*: on the contrary. He told us to be not only ‘harmless as doves’, but also ‘as wise as serpents’. He wants a child’s heart, but a grown-up’s head. He wants us to be simple, single-minded, affectionate, and teachable, as good children are; but he also wants every bit of intelligence we have to be alert at its job, and in first-class fighting trim.”

–C.S. Lewis, *Mere Christianity*

C. "Science"

i. Science does not have all the answers

ii. Science has to be defined

iii. Science vs. Naturalism

II/ Evidences for God

“Ever since men were able to think they have been wondering what this universe really is and how it came to be here.” –C.S. Lewis, *Mere Christianity*

“The God who made the world and everything in it...he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything...that they should seek God, in the hope that they might feel their way toward him and find him.” –Acts 17:24-27

A. Natural Laws

B. Intelligent Design/Designer

C. The Anthropic Principle

“Suppose you are to be executed by a firing squad of 100 trained marksmen, all of them aiming rifles at your heart. You are blindfolded; the command is given; you hear the deafening roar of the rifles. And you observe that you are still alive. The 100 marksmen missed! Taking off the blindfold, you do not observe that you are dead. No surprise there: you could not observe that you are dead. Nonetheless, you should be astonished to observe that you are alive. The entire firing squad missed you altogether! Surprise at that extremely improbable fact is wholly justified—and that fact calls for explanation. You would immediately suspect that they missed you on purpose, by design.”

—William Lane Craig

“O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!...When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, what is man that you are mindful of him, and the son of man that you care for him?”

—Psalm 8:1,3

III/ The Big Bang and creation ex nihilo

A. The Big Bang

“Astronomy leads us to a unique event, a universe which was created out of nothing, one with the very delicate balance needed to provide exactly the right conditions required to permit life, and one which has an underlying (one might say ‘supernatural’) plan. The best data we have [concerning the Big Bang] are exactly what I would have predicted, had I nothing to go on but the five books of Moses, the Psalms, the bible as a whole.” —Arno Penzias, Nobel Prize winner for discovering microwave background

B. Creation *ex nihilo*

“By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible.” –Hebrews 11:3

“Worthy are you, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they existed and were created.” –Revelation 4:11

“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made.” –John 1:1-3

“Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God.” –Psalm 90:2



