



9-5-10



Reflections

While watching a couple of Pickup truck commercials on TV, featuring competitive companies, I heard them explain how their model was the most powerful, had the greatest towing rating, enjoyed the best fuel mileage and had the highest payload capacity. Each had survey data to substantiate their claims and fancy video tech to highlight their best features. Watch one and you're convinced that you should buy a Chevy, watch another and only a Dodge will do, or watch yet another and Ford is certainly the one to go for, unless you see the Toyota Tundra commercial and now it gets really confusing. The problem is solved, of course, when you check out the prices of each and determine that the old truck in your garage will continue to serve your needs. Remember when it was "the" truck to buy?

When ideas are presented regarding trucks, cars, or even discussions of social and political ideologies, truth is often the lost commodity. As it is with pickup trucks, so with other 'sales pitches'. Confuse the audience to make your point of view the most attractive regardless of the facts, then sell it as fact. This strategy of selling ideas, philosophies or products, using a set of so-called facts, is also a strategy employed when men look at their origin. In our current era, we have been immersed in various explanations of how we got here. Elaborate, and ever-changing, theories that promote an accidental arrival of life on Earth have deceived several generations and have dominated the education and media programs of our nation.

We have heard men of "science" tell us that life as we know it came from a "Big Bang", untold millions of years of natural selection all of which has resulted in every living thing, including man. Great leaps of logic and yes, even faith, have convinced many that they are merely the product of chance and eons of time. The reality of creation has been replaced, in their thinking, with happy accidents, imaginary pathways of progress whereby simple one-celled creatures ultimately became what we see today, and then teaching all this wishful thinking as hard scientific fact. The Bible tells a quite different story of creation and then explains what happens when man denies the One who created him and all that exists. First we see: *In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. (Genesis 1:1 NKJ)* Then we find: *For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who*

suppress the truth in unrighteousness,¹⁹ because what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown it to them.²⁰ For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse,²¹ because, although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened.²² Professing to be wise, they became fools,²³ and changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like corruptible man-- and birds and four-footed animals and creeping things. (Romans 1:18-23 NKJ)

When seeking answers to the big questions of life, we must be quite careful as to what we accept as those answers. The current teachings regarding our origins have resulted in the acceptance of many heretical ideas by the Church in order to embrace both the "scientific fact" of evolution and Darwinism and the truth of Scripture. In reality, they are not companion concepts, but rather are antithetical to each other. If one is true, the other cannot be true and no ill-advised marriage of the two results in a greater truth. We can choose to believe the One who said, "I Am" and I created the heavens and the earth or we can choose to believe someone who wasn't there telling us a great fiction of how these things came to be. To accept one negates the other.

Even the world of science has come to the conclusion that such beautiful complexity found in life on earth simply cannot have been "created" out of nothing by accident, and yet, many in the scientific fields reject that which is obvious for that which is godless. You see, to acknowledge the truth of God necessitates coming to grips with Him as Creator and Lord. This is what, those who embrace the naturalistic theories, want to avoid. To accept that God not only exists, but holds man accountable for his sin nature, is what is feared by those who have rejected Him. While the Church has tried to embrace this fiction that has been perpetrated on our schools and media by modifying the true meaning of the Scripture, our children and grandchildren have been fed a lie for years and now choose not to believe in God or His Word. Jesus looked at these little ones and warned those who would cause them to sin that they would face His wrath. Are we not, by embracing the lie, failing to teach them the truth, and failing to answer with truth, the great questions of life, causing them to sin? Something to think about. Let's accept the Creator that we might truly understand who we are and then prepare, by accepting His Son, that our eternal lives might be secured. **Pastor Doug**