

NASA AND THE BIBLE

Introduction

Psalm 8:3-5

* Is mankind ruling over Creation today?

* How is salvation received?

1. Nature's testimony: the James Webb Space Telescope

2. Interpreting what we see: the Age of the Earth and the Origin of the Universe

3. Scripture's testimony: The Creation Account (Genesis 1:1-2:3)

A. The structure of the creation account

- 1) The INTRODUCTORY statement of Creation (1:1). *This verse answers the questions of the WHEN? WHO? and WHAT? of creation in summary fashion.*
- 2) The EXPLANATORY statements of Creation (1:2-31). *This section explains the SPECIFICS of God's creative acts and His infallible evaluation of His creation.*
- 3) The CONCLUDING statements of Creation (2:1-3). *These verses give us a CONCLUSION and EPILOGUE of this creation account.*

B. The INTRODUCTORY statement of Creation (1:1)

- 1) The timing of creation was _____.
- 2) The Author of creation was _____.
- 3) The reality of creation is that "God _____ (bara)", which is used exclusively of the work of _____, never of _____.

4) The extent of creation is that “God created the _____ and the _____.”

* Aspects of the Creation account

4. When the testimony of Scripture and Nature contradict

A. Attempts to reconcile the two

- a. The “gap” theory: Extensive ages between Genesis 1:1 and 1:2
- b. The “day-age” theory: Days in Genesis 1 are figurative, representing long ages of time
- c. The “literary” view or “framework” view: “prioritizes the literary features, theological themes, and cultural context of the creation account”

B. Problems with these views

- a. _____: They don’t fit the text of Genesis 1
- b. _____: They don’t fit with the rest of Scripture
- c. _____: They don’t match observable science
- d. _____: Evolution is not a science issue

5. Rules of interpretation: Scripture and Nature

A. David L. Cooper’s Golden Rule of Interpretation:

“When the plain sense of Scripture makes common sense, seek no other sense. Therefore, take every word of Scripture at its primary, ordinary, usual meaning unless the facts of the immediate context, studied in light of related passages and axiomatic and fundamental truths, indicate clearly otherwise.”

* Who WILL need to revise their “doctrine” due to observations from this telescope?

6. Application: Our God’s Power and Care

* How does all of this apply to you?