

“Where are dinosaurs, unicorns and other fun facts about creation?”

Genesis 1 selected verses

9/7/25

Where are the dinosaurs, unicorns and did God create the universe in 6 days? Hope's grandma used to send us fun Biblically themed cards for holidays and one of my favorites is a picture of two unicorns standing in the pouring down rain, on a rock, with the flood waters rising and a boat is in the distance, and the one unicorn says to the other, “Was that today?”

Why aren't dinosaurs mentioned in the Bible? 2 quick answers: 1) God did not believe they were relevant to mention. 2) The writers of the Bible had no idea that dinosaurs existed.

Maybe mythical creatures like dragons and unicorns were imagined because people were digging up fossilized dinosaur bones when plowing?

We are starting a sermon series of how science and faith intersect. I have found that as I explore science faith can deepen. Both faith and science pursue truth and understanding. Their great similarity is both are based on trust. The Greek root for faith is trust. And when pursuing knowledge through the scientific method we are trusting what our eyes see over and over again. When pursuing relationships, and that is the goal of faith, trust is built through acting consistently. What is the goal of science? A measurable/observable/empirical understanding of the world around us. What is the goal of Jesus Christ? For us to live well/salvation.

Not even God works 7 days a week! That's the Truth God emphasizes to begin the Bible! The Holy Spirit and the writers of this story don't have the intent of telling us that the creation is 13.8 billion years old, or the earth is 4.5 billion years old. God's point is if you are working too hard to cure disease, or working too hard to grow food, or better yet you are asking other people to work too much to make money, there is a greater Truth...Not even God works 7 days a week! Encourage others to rest.

If we don't stop and worship, we may understand the atom, but we may not be living well.

Let's hear the other Truth God teaches us in Genesis 1 & 2.

We are essentially good, created in God's image. In Matthew 25 Jesus teaches that we are to see Christ in each other especially those who hunger, are in jail and are the most vulnerable in society. Our hearts are reeling as we nationally suffer from another school and church mass shooting. As you have probably read and heard, the perpetrator believed in nothing and desired to create chaos. The perpetrator had been trying to figure out identity as well. What the perpetrator didn't seem to be taught or believe, that at their core, who they are is a child of good created in God's image and essentially good. Until we can have reasonable conversations about gun laws and about transgender issues these horrific events will continue.

We Christians do have answers to these questions and can use science to help inform our prayerful response. For gun use, my theological question is “How many guns would Jesus have us own?” Sensible laws for gun ownership can come from our answer. For identity and sexuality questions, these questions are at the core of Jesus’ faith. **Science will not be able to answer the question of any individual’s identity.** The question of “Who am I?” is the beginning of mental health and living well. We are all in search of this question until we meet Jesus Christ and it is through deepening our friendship with Jesus that we fully get answers to that question. My soul breaks for those who struggle with sexuality and transgender identity especially if they are hearing messages that being gay or being transgendered is sin. It’s not easy being human, and we must offer grace when folks are searching for identity as they are growing up. **Being male or female, gay, straight or being transgender is not a sin, whether straight, gay or trans, it is how we use our sexuality or gender that can be sin.** “There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus.” -Galatians 3:28

And this goes back to the first of God’s Truth in the Bible, whoever you are, in God’s eyes you are essentially good. You may do bad things, we all do, but you are good. Jesus lives and lives for us because God believes we are worth saving.

Another Truth this story teaches us is that God creates order out of chaos and desires for us to create order out of chaos. For the Biblical writers, the ocean represents chaos. That is why one of the first lines of the Bible is God creating order out of the watery chaos. From there each day represents God creating order from chaos until God creates us. As we read into Genesis 2, we are to care for God’s good creation, and we can use science to help create order from chaos like creating medicines and vaccines to eliminate disease. Most of us wouldn’t be alive if not for vaccines. Science is a tool for understanding physical reality. The faith of Jesus Christ is a friendship that provides morality, purpose and identity.

Jesus emphasizes that we are all created in God’s image and that we are to create order out of chaos, when Jesus is asked about paying taxes in Matthew 22. The Pharisees come to Jesus asking Him if it is lawful or not to pay taxes to the emperor. Jesus says, “Flip me a coin used to pay the tax and tell me whose image is on this coin?” This is a trick question. They answer Ceasar; but in whose image is Ceasar made? **Even our enemies, even those who are hurting us and actively trying to destroy us are still created in the image of God.** And in paying taxes, we are to create order out of chaos: that is ideally government’s goal! Not to create chaos but to protect individual liberty.

Friends, our identity, our sense of purpose, our morality comes from God’s Word who is Jesus Christ. However, we use science to create order out of chaos when we attempt to eliminate systemic poverty and create cures for disease so that we can live well as Jesus desires.

Love,  
Pastor Curtis

