



November 22, 2020

Sermon: The Problem of Evil Part 1

The Case For Faith

Objection #3 Evolution Explains Life, So God Isn't Needed (P. 93)

When Jay Leno hosted the Tonight Show, he would conduct interviews on the street, asking random people very basic questions. It was fun to laugh when people didn't know the answers, or when they would come up with ridiculous answers. On one episode, Leno asked how Mt. Rushmore was formed. One participant responded with "erosion." Caught off guard, Leno clarified, "Okay, you're telling me that the faces of four famous presidents were carved into the side of a mountain by the natural forces of wind and rain?" The interviewee responded with a resounding, "Yes!"

For hundreds of years, scientists have wondered how things were made. What holds everything together? What is the essence of things? Paul answered this question in Acts 17:23-28:

²³ For as I walked around and looked carefully at your objects of worship, I even found an altar with this inscription: TO AN UNKNOWN GOD. So you are ignorant of the very thing you worship—and this is what I am going to proclaim to you.

²⁴ "The God who made the world and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth and does not live in temples built by human hands. ²⁵ And he is not served by human hands, as if he needed anything. Rather, he himself gives everyone life and

breath and everything else. ²⁶ From one man he made all the nations, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and he marked out their appointed times in history and the boundaries of their lands. ²⁷ God did this so that they would seek him and perhaps reach out for him and find him, though he is not far from any one of us. ²⁸ For in him we live and move and have our being.

The answer to the question of what unites all things and holds all things together is Christ. All things were created through Him and for Him. We can investigate and do research, but in the end none of these things will make sense apart from the Creator.

Why is it important to understand that everything started with God?

Why do you believe God exists? Is your belief based on your own research or wrapped up in what others have told you?

The Christian worldview clearly states that we are here – that our universe is here – by the purposeful intention and design of our Creator. Not by chance, but by design. How does that notion settle with science?

- Read Psalms 139:13-14.

In what ways does knowing that you were intentionally and uniquely created by God impact your worldview?

Whether in high school science or on a nature documentary, the theory of evolution is the standard scientific view for how life began. It's so embedded within the scientific community that people assume it's true and that there's no reason to question it. Those who do question it or offer alternative explanations are deemed religious fanatics.

What difference does it make in how you approach life if you know you were created by God?

See **Questions for Reflection** on P. 120.