

247 “Not without witness ...”

In Acts Chapter 14 the reaction of the people in Lystra to Paul's healing of a crippled man was extraordinary (vv 12-13)! No wonder Paul “ran in among the people, crying out” (verse 14). Quickly he had to stop all the nonsense and get over a few basic truths to them about the one true God. How did he do it?

Paul “told it straight”, urging them to “turn from these vanities unto the living God, who made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and all things that are therein” (verse 15b). This God “.... in times past suffered all nations to walk in their own ways. Nevertheless he left not himself without witness, in that he did good, and gave us rain from heaven, and fruitful seasons, filling our hearts with food and gladness” (vv 16-17).

As at Athens later on (Acts 17.16ff) we see that Paul does not lead with Christ, but with God as Creator, who has “not left himself without witness”, as shown by His merciful patience and bountiful provision for one and all.

How similar is today's situation, for we too have to re-establish the primary truth that God really is our Creator. This truth is so trampled upon today by the blatant hoax that is propagated everywhere, that “science has proved” that we have all got here by an amazing process of evolution from absolutely nothing at all, in which no God-figure was required. Far too many Christians have accepted this make-believe without a murmur, but then try to keep God in the picture by saying He must simply have used evolution as His method of creation. They then go on to say that this whole subject about our origins is therefore just a silly sideshow which actually gets in the way of effective evangelism!

Such an approach – disturbingly widespread among Christians – is worthy of Alice in Wonderland, for nothing could be further from the truth. A no-God origins-process of a “Big Bang” from Nothing at all, followed by random, aimless evolution to Everything, is scientifically impossible, Fact, even though this belief is pushed upon us from all sides.

This means that if we really HAVE evolved, evolution must have been God's chosen method of creation. But that assumption, known as “theistic evolution”, is, at the very least, a deep impertinence to the Lord God our Creator, for evolution flies smack in the face of God's Word, God's character, God's deeds and God's Gospel (egs., Genesis Chapters 1-11 / Mark 10.6-7 / Romans 5.12 / I Corinthians 15.21-22 / Luke 17.26-27 / II Timothy 1.9 / Hebrews 11.3,7 / II Peter 3.4-5 / I Peter 3.20). In such passages the recent 6-day creation, the Fall and the Flood are key, plus the crucial fact of violence, bloodshed and death arriving only AFTER the Fall as a result of Man's sin. But if God used evolution we have to say that He was content with violence, bloodshed and death from the start, LONG BEFORE He ever got to Adam and Eve and the Fall. Theistic evolution simply cannot “square this circle”: the rightful home for this false belief is the dustbin.

We find in Scripture not a breath of evolution, and everywhere instead the factual acceptance of early Genesis. The more that Christian people realise this, and especially that the scientific credentials underlying early Genesis (quite apart from the scriptural ones) are immensely strong, the more our Christian guns can be trained on where the heart of the Gospel battle really exists: evolution in its dismissal of God as Creator.

Why are so many of the people amongst whom we live so closed to the Gospel of Jesus Christ? Is it not because they have lost any notion of their being answerable to God their Creator? What could possibly have led them to this fearful mistake?

The answer is two-fold: first, the ubiquitous assumption that evolution is a mighty, proven fact that renders God redundant; and second, the abject surrender of the churches in accepting evolution and setting early Genesis aside as being an outdated embarrassment. Praise Him, Almighty God our Creator remains “not without witness” throughout this planet, as Paul explained at Lystra that day, but this divine witness is deeply smothered these days by the evolution hoax. Though so few realise it, our exposing evolution as scientific humbug is vital, and to help us in this task a careful visit to www.creation.com for example is time well spent.

Once evolution has been exposed as the fraud that it is by its confrontation with the scriptural and scientific realities, things can quickly move on: the witness all around us in this fallen creation is then seen to speak indeed of our patient, loving God; and the reason for God’s Son, the Lord Jesus Christ Himself, meeting us with scarred hands outstretched in welcome, can at last make sense to the many.

Please God, the many will respond.

© 2017 Faithful Sheep Ministries - www.fsmins.org