

Culture  **Christianity**



Intown
Community
Church



Creation and Evolution

Week 1: Re-Enchanting the World

**We need to re-enchant
our world.**



Discussion

- Read Genesis 1:1-2:3
 - What “big themes” do you notice?
 - What details stand out?



Creation and Evolution

What Are We Doing? And Why?

Changed:

we want to see people grow in their understanding of and appreciation for what **God's Word says to us about **his life-giving goodness** as creator and sustainer.**

Known:

we want to see people become part of a community where deep questions get honest answers, and where they don't have to hide part of themselves—whether the spiritual or the intellectual.

Sent:

we want to see people encouraged to take their faith into their scientific and academic endeavors, and equipped with a solid response to the question, “what about the Bible and evolution?”

Creation And Evolution:

**Week 1: Re-enchanting the
World**

**Creation And Evolution:
Week 2: What Key Claims
Does Christianity Make
About Creation?**

Creation And Evolution:
Week 3: What Key Claims
Does Evolutionary Theory
Make?

**Creation And Evolution:
Week 4: How Do We Answer
Questions About The Bible
and Evolution?**

**We need to re-enchant
our world.**

“...we are living now in a day
of complete disenchantment
of the material universe.”

Chris R. Armstrong, “The Work of Genesis: How the Doctrines of
Creation and Incarnation Shine Light on Our Earthly Vocations.”

EVERYTHING
EVERYWHERE
ALL AT ONCE



Imagination, beliefs, values
What makes life worth living

Reason, facts
Actual living

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God wants

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Creation and Evolution

Questions of First Readers



Questions of Significance

- Is our world formed from the bodily fluids of a god/s?
- Am I the by-product of a pointless process?



Questions of Hope v Despair

- We are insignificant players on the world stage. What hope do we have?
- Much is against us. What is for us?



Questions of Coherence

- Is it true that gods are local, regional, or national?
- Does the God of Israel exist only for Israel?
- Are there many competing stories, or One True Story?



Questions of Wonder and Awe

- How much can I get done in a normal week?
- What happens when I speak?



Questions About Daily Rhythms

- If I could rest all the time, would that be a good thing?
- Do I work because I'm a slave to the gods, who made me so they can rest?



Questions About Daily Rhythms

- If I could work all the time, would that be a good thing?
- Do I rest only because weakness or fatigue means I have to?



Creation and Evolution

Highlights: Genesis 1:1-2:3



Creation and Evolution

“In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth...”

Genesis 1:1



Creation and Evolution

“The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep....”

Genesis 1:2



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“And God said...
And God saw...”

Genesis 1:3-4



Creation and Evolution

“...and behold, it was very good.”

Genesis 1:31



Creation and Evolution

“And there was evening and there was morning, the first day...”

Genesis 1:5

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God wants

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Let us adore the Lord,
Maker of marvelous works,
Bright heaven with its angels,
And on earth the white-waved sea.

“The Lord of Creation.” Medieval Celtic Christian Poem.



For Further Study

C. John Collins, *Science and Faith: Friends or Foes?* (Esp. chapters 4-13.)

C. John Collins, *Genesis 1-4: A Linguistic, Literary, and Theological Commentary.*



For Further Study

“Report of the Creation Study
Committee” [PCA position paper]

www.pcahistory.org/pca/digest/studies/creation/report.pdf

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The book of revelation and the book of nature are both from God, and will be found, when both are adequately interpreted, to coincide perfectly.

A.A. Hodge, *The Westminster Confession: A Commentary*

The record in Genesis... was not designed either to prevent or to take the place of a scientific interpretation of all existing phenomena, and of all traces of the past history of the world which God allows men to discover.

A.A. Hodge, *The Westminster Confession: A Commentary*

God requires both to believe and to learn. He imposes upon us at present the necessity of humility and patience.

A.A. Hodge, *The Westminster Confession: A Commentary*