

## Phony-baloney Knowledge

*“Turn away from godless chatter and the opposing ideas of what is falsely called knowledge” (1 Timothy 6:20).*

Our modern world is over-loaded with speculations, opinions, phony knowledge, and outright lies. There’s so much absurd nonsense filling our minds and media that only committed Bible believers even accept that there’s really such a thing as truth anymore – and even then truth only theoretically exists. In our daily conversations, we thoughtlessly toss out conjectures and opinions with scarcely any concern whether they’re true or not. Almost all political discussion, which seems so popular these days, is nothing more than “godless chatter,” that is, idle speculation and opinion, dispensed with no concern for truth. We have today a problem with truth.

So, for example, we “know” the (supposed) truth that the sun is the center of our solar system and the earth is just another planet that orbits the sun. Nonsense! No one knows that to be true. No one can possibly know that to be true, because within a system (and we are in it) all motion is relative. Only someone observing from *outside* the system, who is at absolute rest, can know what’s moving and what isn’t. That the earth is at the center of the solar system (indeed, of the universe) is simply repudiated; it has never been disproven and it can’t be. Such phony knowledge fills our minds.

The foundation of much of today’s phony knowledge is Darwinian evolution. Every week or so the *Wall Street Journal* prints an article or a book review extolling and promoting either evolution or a spin-off. Science is saturated with it; any scientist who doesn’t commit to it is censored and his career is over. Our entire education system is soaked in it. So are government agencies. And so, based on the supposed fact of evolution, we have layer upon layer of phony beliefs, such as (to name just a few): free sex, humanism, scientism, Marxism, trans-humanism, secularism, climate change, the existence of multiple parallel universes, a so-called metaverse and the existence of extra-terrestrial intelligent life. More: that democracy is an ideal form of government, that marijuana is good for one’s health, that people can willfully change their sex. And more. For over a century, Darwinism and Marxism slowly penetrated the educated class of Western society. But in the recent one or two decades we’ve witnessed a surge of phony narratives that have captured the minds of America. And what’s extraordinary is, everything I just listed can be (and has been, in one place or another) shown by careful analysis to be false, yet they all are believed with tenacity and fervor, by people who are intelligent but who reject as evil any criticism of their belief! It really looks as if God has removed His hand of restraint from our “rational and enlightened” world, leaving the noetic effect of sin in complete control.

Yet Darwinism can be refuted. Easily, in fact. The more that’s discovered in our physical world, especially in the fields of molecular biology and genetics, the more evolution is shown to be laughable. And creationist scientists have been doing their best to demonstrate that a recent fiat creation as revealed in Scripture is true, and that Darwinism isn’t. The whole evolutionary narrative is simply made up, invented; it’s a fairy tale for grown-ups. No scientist can defend it; they know from recent understanding of cell biology that it’s an absurdity. Nevertheless, almost everyone in the Western world today believes it! And believing it, they have no interest in God. Incredibly, *sadly*, even many evangelical theologians believe it.

Let’s, for example, consider the following. The burgeoning field of proteomics has demonstrated a lot about proteins never before realized. Just as DNA can be sequenced, so can proteins. So proteins can be compared with other proteins, and it turns out that they fall into neat classes (“families”), based on their morphology, sequence of amino acids, functional zones, etc. Most living species have the same kinds of protein families to do the same kinds of basic processes. But there’s no gradual transition of proteins from one animal class to another as evolution, with its supposed mutation and selection requires. Instead, there’s discontinuity, distinctly different proteins. There’s nothing even to suggest that the various protein families in different animal classes came from a common ancestor. Creation explains this, Darwinism doesn’t.

The DNA in the Y chromosome has been sequenced for myriads of humans all over the world. By comparing the number of mutations on the chromosome in 15 different kinds of people (Pacific Islanders, Europeans, Asians, Africans, Australian aborigines, etc), It turns out that all men have descended from a common ancestor. And that person had to have lived in the *recent* past. Noah, who lived 4500 years ago, would be that ancestor, because that’s the timescale the Y chromosome mutation rates necessitate. The data absolutely refutes the evolution narrative, which alleges that humans arrived on earth ¼ million years ago.

A mountain of molecular observations have been made of the coronavirus causing the recent Covid outbreak. It turns out that its genome actually *devolved* into a more innocuous virus. Mutations in the gene for the spike protein changed its configuration so the protein couldn’t attach to its receptor. The virus self-attenuated by mutating the gene necessary for its pathogenicity. And it did it rather rapidly. The virus didn’t *evolve* into something more pathogenic, as Darwinian virologists

and epidemiologists predicted it would, and which is why they pushed lockdowns and the rush to vaccinate all the people of the world. Mutations really are harmful! Mutations don't result in evolutionary change.

More fundamentally, evolution simply cannot be true, regardless what claims are made regarding fossils or computer models. Let's consider basics. According to naturalism, the presupposition that drives science, there exists only matter acted on by energy, and that's all there is in our cosmos. Matter, acted on by energy, and nothing else. But it's irrelevant how much energy is available or what form the energy takes (chemical, electrical, mechanical, etc) unless there exists *prior* mechanisms to capture and either store or use free energy. Energy is useless unless systems already exist within the physical matter of the organisms by which that energy can do whatever is needed to result in and maintain life. Worse, energy is needed to produce those systems that have to pre-exist. So here's an impossible-to-explain problem, unmasked by current understanding of molecular biology, a conundrum that demolishes Darwinism. It's one that evolutionists even refuse to acknowledge. They either pretend the problem doesn't exist or hope that someone will resolve it some day. It does exist; it's real, and it can be resolved *only* by special Creation.

We can go further. Evolution (and all the layers of phony knowledge that fill modernity that derive from evolution) is based on naturalism. Naturalism is the idea or presupposition that there exists nothing –*nothing!* – that's non-material. Only matter (and the energy that acts on it) exists. Believing this preposterous presupposition is absolutely required for anyone to participate in anything intellectual today. But it's *demonstrably* absurd! Consider this: There needs to be entire systems of information to make the matter of a cell do anything when acted on by energy. *Information is not matter!* Information is coded in DNA, that's what DNA is for, to store encoded information. Information is built into all living systems. When the information-using systems fail, energy can no longer be constrained, so the cell or the organism dies. Hey! Information is built into computers, otherwise the computers wouldn't do anything but sit there. If you delete the operating system and all the software from your smart-phone, laptop or desktop, the physical matter of the computer hasn't changed in the slightest. The central processing unit is still the processor . . . but it doesn't process. Information is non-material, that is, it's not physical matter. So that absolutely refutes the naturalism presupposition. Language and indeed all mathematics is really information, and they are not matter. What's language, after all? It's a system of arbitrary symbols or sounds that, used according to certain rules, have meaning. "Rules"? "Meaning"? Where did that encoded, non-material information come from? Thoughts and consciousness are not matter either. Matter and energy cannot evolve information and cannot explain information, yet cannot do anything without it. Naturalism is nonsense, and so is every belief and narrative in our modern world that has been built upon it.

God exists. He's there, and He's not silent. We just don't want to listen to Him. Let's look at how various English translations phrase Romans 1:18-20. "Now the holy anger of God is disclosed from heaven against the godlessness and evil of those men who render truth dumb and impotent by their wickedness" (Phillips Modern English). ". . . in their wickedness they are stifling the truth" (New English Bible). ". . . who keep truth imprisoned in their wickedness" (Jerusalem Bible). ". . . who push away the truth from them" (Living Bible). And this, ". . . who suppress the truth by their wickedness" (NIV). The truth Paul refers to here is the existence of the Creator God who rules and who judges.

We are living in an unusual era of history when people in the West cherish the notion that they are intelligent and have great knowledge. It's the consequence of having put a high value on education. Our nation is being taken over by this "knowledge" class. Our nation's values and beliefs, whether political, cultural or whatever, are formed by what we "know." Tragically, it's all phony-baloney knowledge. But it's what they want. It's all they know.

Truth is an attribute of God. It's an expression of His holiness, faithfulness, and goodness. It must exist not in the abstract but in reality. It must find real, tangible expression in this physical cosmos because of the existence of evil. So Jesus identified as the personification of truth (John 14:6 and Revelation 19:11). Truth, that is, God's truth, *Scripture* (John 17:17), has to deeply affect us. It must shape our thinking, indeed, our lives so that we exemplify truth. If it doesn't, we really don't care that much about truth. A penchant for truth is not just a matter of refusing to speak falsehoods, or eschewing the lies that circulate all around us; it's more expansive, more comprehensive than that. It's treasuring God's Word in our heart so thoroughly that our lives express Scripture, that is, express truth.

It's the role or task of the Church to proclaim truth to a generation that doesn't want it. No one else will do it. And our nation's sated and foolish people probably won't listen (though some will, God's elect are everywhere). But just as the prophet Isaiah was commissioned to speak truth to a nation whose ears were closed, we must carry out the same kind of prophetic ministry. We need to rouse ourselves from an irresponsible, self-induced slumber and get to work. After all, what is truth if it doesn't change us and impel us to share it, regardless whether it's received and believed or not? Remember: It was because of this issue of truth that Jesus went to the cross (see John 18:37,38a); rejecting Him rejects truth.