

## Religion vs. Science

by Hendrik Joubert

It is simply amazing how easily stereotypical mindsets are established and maintained in our supposedly advanced, scientific society. The Biologist Gary Parker, in his book *Creation, Facts of Life*, (1997) quotes the popular saying “*Evolution is science, and creation is religion*,” (p.13) before effectively demonstrating this generally accepted statement to be false. Because of the prominent role of faith in the acceptance of creation, many will not even contest the idea though. Although it is true that believers **walk by faith, not by sight (2 Corinthians 5:7)**, God has surrounded us with *scientific* evidence of His existence (**Romans 1:18-21**) and we should not allow scientists to deny or minimize that.

The way we look at evidence, and what constitutes evidence, is important. More often than not we allow our personal prejudice to obscure the truth. Stigmatization, or labeling is only one of the ways in which the arguments of our opponents “are destroyed” as we work on prejudicing others against what is being said. This usually becomes necessary when our evidence is weak, or when we are unable to defend our position due to our ignorance. The believer has a God-given responsibility to qualify him or herself to defend his or her faith.

Parker explains the appeal of evolution: “*Perhaps most importantly for me and many others, evolution means there is no God, no “Creator” who sets the rules. Human beings are tops. Each of us is his or her own boss. We set our own rules, our own goals. We decide what is best for us.*” (p.8) In our society where individual rights are considered extremely important this is especially appealing – I do as I please, it is my right... Unfortunately many are not willing to accept responsibility for their actions. God takes all of this away as He demands submission to His will. (**Acts 17:30-31**)

Another illustration of the lack of objectivity (a vital ingredient of any true investigation of facts) as well as the solution is found in the following quotation: “*Like Hoyle and Wickramasinghe, Lipson is a bit surprised and unhappy with his own conclusion. He writes, “I know that this [creation] is anathema to physicists, and indeed it is to me,…” But his sense of honesty and scientific integrity forces him to conclude his sentence thus: “...but we must not reject a theory we do not like if the experimental evidence supports it.”*” (p.37)

Have you noticed the suggestion that creation solves dilemmas the theory of evolution will not, and that it is an admission by a scientist who considers creation *anathema*. Parker quotes another scientist (Collin Patterson) who admits to “*entertaining non-evolutionary or even anti-evolutionary ideas. Why? Because, he said after twenty years of research in evolution, he asked himself to name just one thing he knew for sure—and he couldn’t come up with anything!*” (p. 45) Parker quotes more startling confessions, however many scientists will not make these admissions.

How then do we go about proving creation by scientific means? Parker, who says of himself: *I didn’t just believe evolution, I embraced it enthusiastically!* (p.8),” later points out: *But nothing is really easier for scientists and just “ordinary people” than finding and recognizing evidence of creation.* (p. 13) He identifies the necessary tools as *logic* and *observation*, and demonstrates how it is used to establish creation by intelligent design. Walking along a creek you may notice several stones and pebbles resembling things like boots, eggs and even a head. As you examine the stone you notice the composition of hard and soft stone, and how that the softer parts were ground away so that the stone took on a particular form purely by chance. Then you notice an arrowhead among the pebbles, and immediately recognize it as totally different from those formed by pure chance. Every scientist will vehemently argue that the shape cannot be the product of chance, that one is able to clearly see that it is the product

of intelligence.

God will hold every man responsible who fails to use these scientific tools to recognize His handiwork. ***For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, <sup>19</sup> because that which is known about God is evident within them; for God made it evident to them. <sup>20</sup> For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood through what has been made, so that they are without excuse. Romans 1:18-20***