# God, Creation, Humanity, and Living Life Session 1: "Biblical Lessons in Ancient History Contrasted with the Evolutionary Worldview"

Faith Lutheran Church, San Antonio, TX, 10 Aug. 2013 Ryan C. MacPherson, Ph.D. • www.ryancmacpherson.com

# 1. How Reliable Is the Text of Holy Scripture?

- A. Not very reliable—hasn't it evolved over many centuries under many editors?
- B. Or, amazingly reliable—since it has been preserved even in the tiniest details?

# 2. What Are the Most Detailed and Accurate Source Documents on Ancient History?

- A. Egyptian, Assyrian, or Persian records?
- B. Or the Old and New Testaments?

## 3. How Much Older Are Animals Than Humans?

- A. Vastly older—by hundreds of thousands if not millions of years?
- B. Or, barely older—by perhaps several hours but certainly less than one day?

# 4. Who Really Was the Neanderthal Man?

- A. A "Missing Link" proving Darwin's theory of evolution?
- B. Or, a creationist hymn writer?

# 5. In What Sequence Did the Following Developments Occur?

- A. First climate change, then clothing, and finally shame?
- B. Or, first shame, then clothing, and finally climate change?

#### 6. How Did Violence and Warfare Originate?

- A. Competition over scarce resources?
- B. Or, jealousy over the most abundant resource ever?

#### 7. What Drives History?

- A. Purposeless chance?
- B. Or, providential blessing and judgment?

#### 8. How Long Can People Live?

- A. Longer now than ever before, thanks to modern medicine?
- B. Or, shorter now than in centuries past?

# 9. What's the Difference between Black and White?

- A. Are some races more highly evolved than others?
- B. Or, are all races equally human?

#### 10. Which Came First?

- A. Society?
- B. Or, marriage?

#### 11. How, Then, Does Science Really Work?

- A. By proving a theory true based on observed evidence?
- B. Or, by social consensus to cling to the current paradigm?

# 12. How Important Is the Doctrine of Creation Compared to Other Doctrines?

- A. Not very important?
- B. Or, closely intertwined with every major doctrine of the Christian church?

#### For further study:

Answers in Genesis. www.answersingenesis.org.

- Jones, Floyd Nolen. *The Chronology of the Old Testament*. 15th ed. Green Forest, AR: MasterBooks, 2005.
- Landis, Don, ed. *The Geninus of Ancient Man: Evolution's Nightmare*. Green Forest, AR: MasterBooks, 2012.
- Luther, Martin. *Lectures on Genesis, Chapters 1-5.* In *Luther's Works*, vol. 1. Edited by Jarislav Pelikan. St. Louis: Concordia Publishing House, 1958.

Lutheran Science Institute. *www.lutheranscience.org*.

- Menuge, Angus J. L., ed. *Reading God's World: The Scientific Vocation*. St. Louis: Concordia Publishing House, 2004.
- Ryan, Jay. *Signs and Seasons: Understanding the Elements of Classical Astronomy*. Cleveland: Fourth Day Press, 2007.
- Safarti, Jonathan. *Refuting Evolution: A Handbook for Students, Parents, and Teachers Countering the Latest Arguments for Evolution.* Forward by Ken Ham. Brisbane, Australia: Answers in Genesis, 1999.
- Ussher, James. *The Annals of the World*. Ed. and trans. by Larry Pierce and Marion Pierce. Green Forest, AR: MasterBooks, 2003.

#### Free resources available at www.ryancmacpherson.com

(Use the website's "Search" feature to locate these titles once you access the website.)

"A Lutheran View of Science"

"The Church and Science through the Ages"

"On the Antiquity of the Earth"

"Isaiah Offers Comfort from God the Creator"

"The Life-Giving Gospel Is Active at Conception"

"God's Work of Creation: One Truth Viewed from Three Perspectives"

"Creation Theories"