

Creation

We believe that God, in all three persons of the trinity (Genesis 1:26; 1 Corinthians 8:6; Colossians 1:16–17; Genesis 1:2), directly created the universe (Genesis 1:1) and all that is in it (Nehemiah 9:6; John 1:3) without any pre-existing materials (*ex nihilo*) (Psalm 33:6,9; 148:5; Hebrews 11:3) by means of His Word (Genesis 1:3; John 1:1-3). God created all things in six literal, consecutive, 24-hour days and rested on the seventh, thus establishing man's pattern of work (Exodus 20:9-11). God's purpose in His creation was His own glory (Isaiah 43:7; Ephesians 1:12; Colossians 1:16). Although not specifically scientific in nature, the first chapters of Genesis record a historical account of the origin of the universe and mankind and are a reliable foundation for scientific inquiry into the world. We believe that Adam and Eve were real, historical people (1 Chronicles 1:1; Luke 3:38; 1 Timothy 2:13-14) directly and specially created by God as the first man and woman (Genesis 2:7, 21-22) and that all people alive today are directly descended from them. We believe the original animal types (*kinds*) created by God contained sufficient genetic variety to allow for limited biological change (primarily through mutational degeneration) within those kinds to produce all the various species alive today.

We reject as unbiblical and unscientific any theory of origins dependent on natural means including theistic or atheistic evolution as it necessitates death before God established it as the direct consequence of the sinful rebellion of mankind (Genesis 2:16-17; 3:19; Romans 5:12; 6:23). We also reject as unnecessary the gap theory and other well-meaning attempts by believers to explain an apparent old age of the earth apart from a global, Noachian flood and creation with reasonable age (e.g., trees were not created as seeds, Adam was not created as an infant). Even potentially allowing for some gaps in the biblical genealogical tables, we believe the earth to be less than eight thousand years old.

We believe that as a Christian camp and conference center we have a special privilege of exposing people to the grandeur of God's creation as a visible display of His goodness and greatness (Psalm 19:1-4; Romans 1:19-20) as well as a reminder of our finitude, dependence, and necessary submission to our Creator (Psalm 8:3-4; 100:3; Romans 9:20-21).