Questions for Life

From Sunday, March 21, 2010

Creation: The Chicken or the Egg?

Genesis 1
Fruit trees…third day
The greater light to rule the day…fourth day
Sea creatures…birds…fifth day
Beasts…creeping things…man…sixth day

Genesis 2:7 The LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being. 21 The LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall on Adam, and he slept; and He took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh in its place. 22 Then the rib which the LORD God had taken from man He made into a woman, and He brought her to the man.

Genesis 1:29 And God said, "See, I have given you every herb that yields seed which is on the face of all the earth, and every tree whose fruit yields seed; to you it shall be for food. 30 Also, to every beast of the earth, to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, in which there is life, I have given every green herb for food"; and it was so. 31 Then God saw everything that He had made, and indeed it was very good. So the evening and the morning were the sixth day.

Genesis 2:17 Of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die."

Genesis 3:6 So when the woman saw that the tree *was* good for food, that it *was* pleasant to the eyes, and a tree desirable to make *one* wise, she took of its fruit and ate. She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate.

Genesis 3:17 Then to Adam He said, "Because you have heeded the voice of your wife, and have eaten from the tree of which I commanded you, saying, 'You shall not eat of it': " Cursed is the ground for your sake; in toil you shall eat of it all the days of your life. 18 Both thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you, and you shall eat the herb of the field. 19 In the sweat of your face you shall eat bread till you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; for dust you are, and to dust you shall return."

Romans 5:12 Through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin.

Matthew 19:4 He answered and said to them, "Have you not read that He who made them at the beginning 'made them male and female."

Mark 10:6 From the beginning of the creation, God 'made them male and female.'

As we saw in the message on "The Chicken. or the Egg?", the Bible shows that there was no death before the first man and women sinned; in other words, suffering, struggle, and death are consequences of man's rebellion against God. We also saw in this message that evolution assumes struggle and death over millions of years before man and woman first arrived on the scene.

1. What picture of God do you get if you think that His creation went through much struggle and death apart from sin (as evolution teaches)?

2. How does it affect your view of God knowing that suffering, struggle, and death are not the results of God's creation, but are the results of man's rebellion against God (as the Bible teaches)?

3. Evolution teaches that we are not responsible for the mess the world is in, because it came about by chance; however, the Bible teaches that people are fully responsible. How might these views affect a person's view of the world today? Of salvation from this mess? Which view might offer more hope for the future, and why?

4. The Bible's presentation about how things came to be shows that God continues to be good even though the world continues to endure struggle, suffering, and death. How does this view give you strength and encouragement for what you are experiencing today? Explain.

5. In considering creation and evolution, what would you like for your friends and loved ones to understand? Why?

6. Is there something on this topic that you would like to understand better? What would that be, and why?