

Quick Answers to Tough Questions

NOVATION CREATION
EVOLUTION

BIBLE



Information



BRYAN OSBORNE
& BODIE HODGE

Foreword 60 74 81

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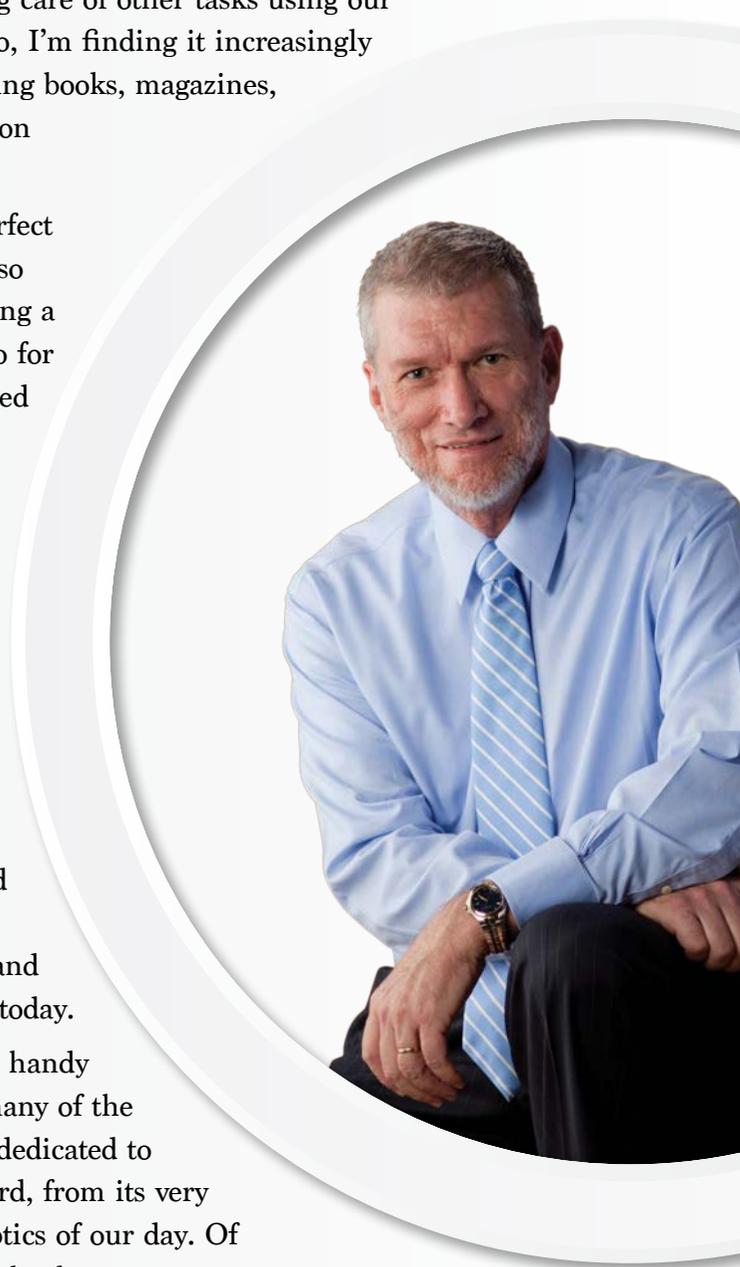
Foreword

In this electronic age, I'm often checking my smartphone for emails, posting items to Facebook, and taking care of other tasks using our wonderful modern-day technology. So, I'm finding it increasingly difficult to keep up my habit of reading books, magazines, and other literature that are printed on good-old-fashioned paper.

Quick Answers to Tough Questions is a perfect resource for those of us who can get so absorbed with electronic media reading a printed book becomes a challenge. So for brevity sake, the authors have provided readers with a series of mini articles on a variety of topics.

This book is ideal for teens and adults looking for brief Bible-upholding and science-confirming answers to some of the most-asked questions of our day. Take a peek, for example, at page 38. Right there, in less than 400 words, Bryan and Bodie give an excellent answer to the question "Why is there death and suffering if there is a God?" That's a question that many non-Christians (and even many Christians) struggle with today.

Quick Answers to Tough Questions is your handy tool that offers relevant answers to many of the pressing questions people have. It is dedicated to upholding the authority of God's Word, from its very first verse, and to answering the skeptics of our day. Of course, the gospel is presented in the book.





Today, it's unfortunate to see so many pastors and other church leaders not taking a stand on God's Word, starting in Genesis. Should we be surprised, then, that the church is not affecting the culture as it once did in our Christianized countries? Indeed, our Western nations are becoming more secular every year.

Over the decades, I have been deeply saddened to see a huge exodus of young people from our churches. The “seeker-sensitive” approach, prominent in so many churches nowadays (often with an emphasis on entertainment), has overtaken the teaching of God's Word as the top priority. As a result, generations do not know what they believe, much less why they believe it. More than ever, our young people and adults need to be equipped with answers to defend the Christian faith against the secular attacks of the day—confident in knowing they can trust God's Word from Genesis to Revelation.

As Answers in Genesis seeks to help usher in a new reformation within our churches so that once again they will impact the culture for the gospel, it's thrilling that apologists like Bryan and Bodie are leading the charge. They are producing excellent resources like this book that defend the Christian faith and proclaim the gospel.

Yes, the spiritual struggle is an enormous one—and at times the battle can be daunting. But by becoming better-equipped, Christians can be more effective in engaging the culture for Christ.

Thanks for putting down your smartphone or other electronic device to read this book. I know you'll be blessed by Bryan and Bodie's wonderful apologetics resource.

~ Ken Ham,
president/CEO of Answers in Genesis

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What is going on in our culture?



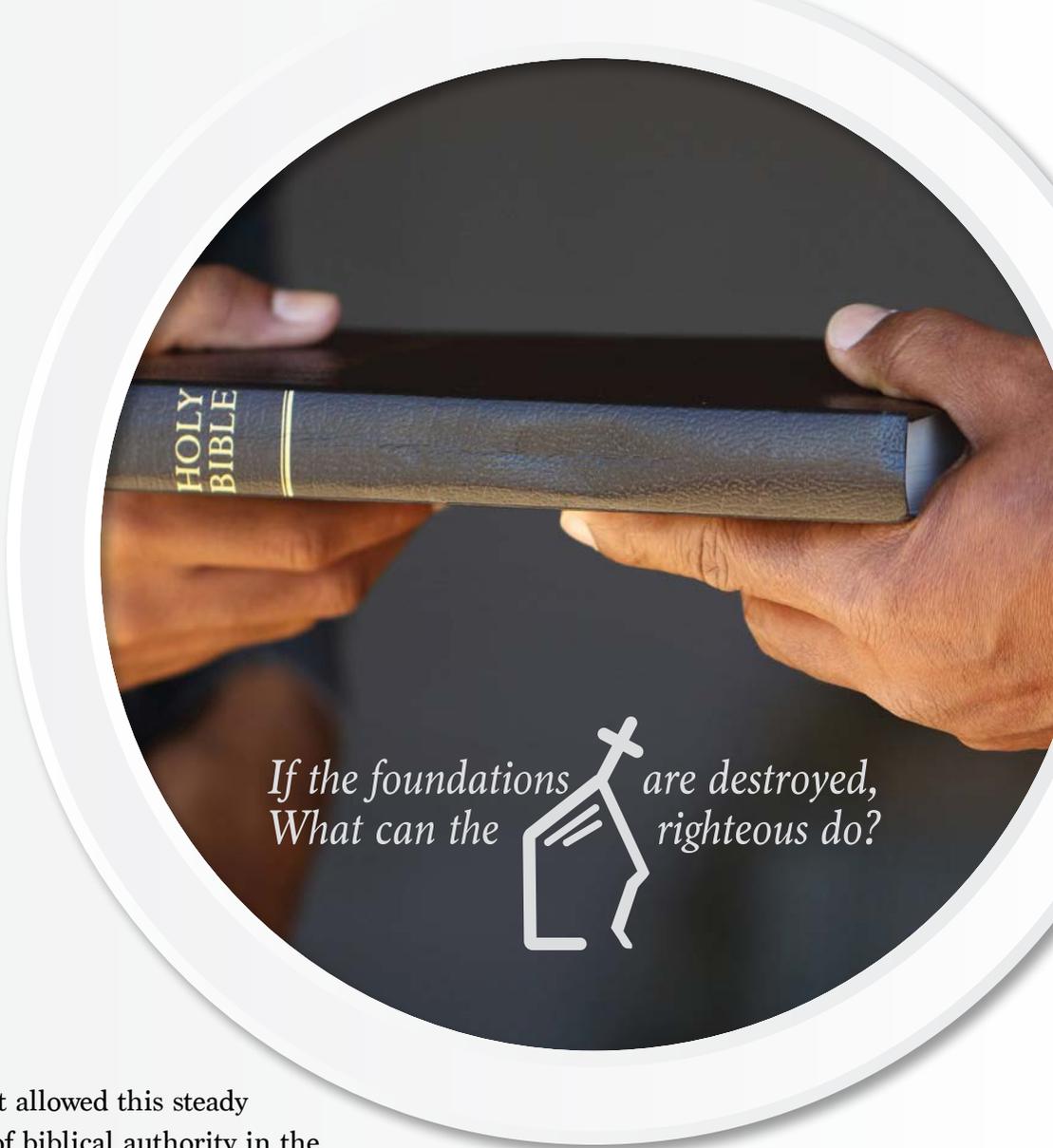
What is happening? To the honest observer, it is clear that America is undergoing a rapid moral and cultural revolution of unprecedented momentum. America is becoming less Christian and more secular with each passing moment. We now live in a culture where the Bible, prayer, Christian symbols, and Christianity as a whole are increasingly attacked and marginalized. And it's all taking place in a nation founded on many biblical principles!

This revolution is not limited to America; it's happening all across the Western World. But the fact it is happening in America is quite astonishing. Why? Because America is one of the most "Christianized" nations ever. Right now it has more Christian resources (churches, seminaries, Christian colleges, bookstores, TV and radio stations, etc.) than any other nation has ever had throughout all of history! And yet Christianity is quickly fading away in America.

Why is this happening? As referenced in Psalm 11:3, "If the foundations are destroyed, what can the righteous do?" There has been a foundational shift in our culture from God's Word as the authority to man's. This transformation did not happen overnight. It occurred in much the same way a person is carried by the ocean's tide when playing in the waves. One moment you're having a great time, and the next you look up and don't even recognize where you're at.

BIBLE REF.

Psalm 11:3
Matthew 7:24-27
Colossians 2:8
Jude 1:3



But what allowed this steady erosion of biblical authority in the American culture? A loss of biblical authority within much of the church. The concession of biblical truth, especially in regard to origins, allowed the infiltration of secular ideas into the church. The culture has invaded the pews. Like Israel of old, the church has adopted doctrines of the current pagan religion, leaving it impotent to influence the surrounding culture. And like Israel of old, the first order of business must be repentance inside the church before there can be influence outside the church.



– Why the division over creation vs. evolution?



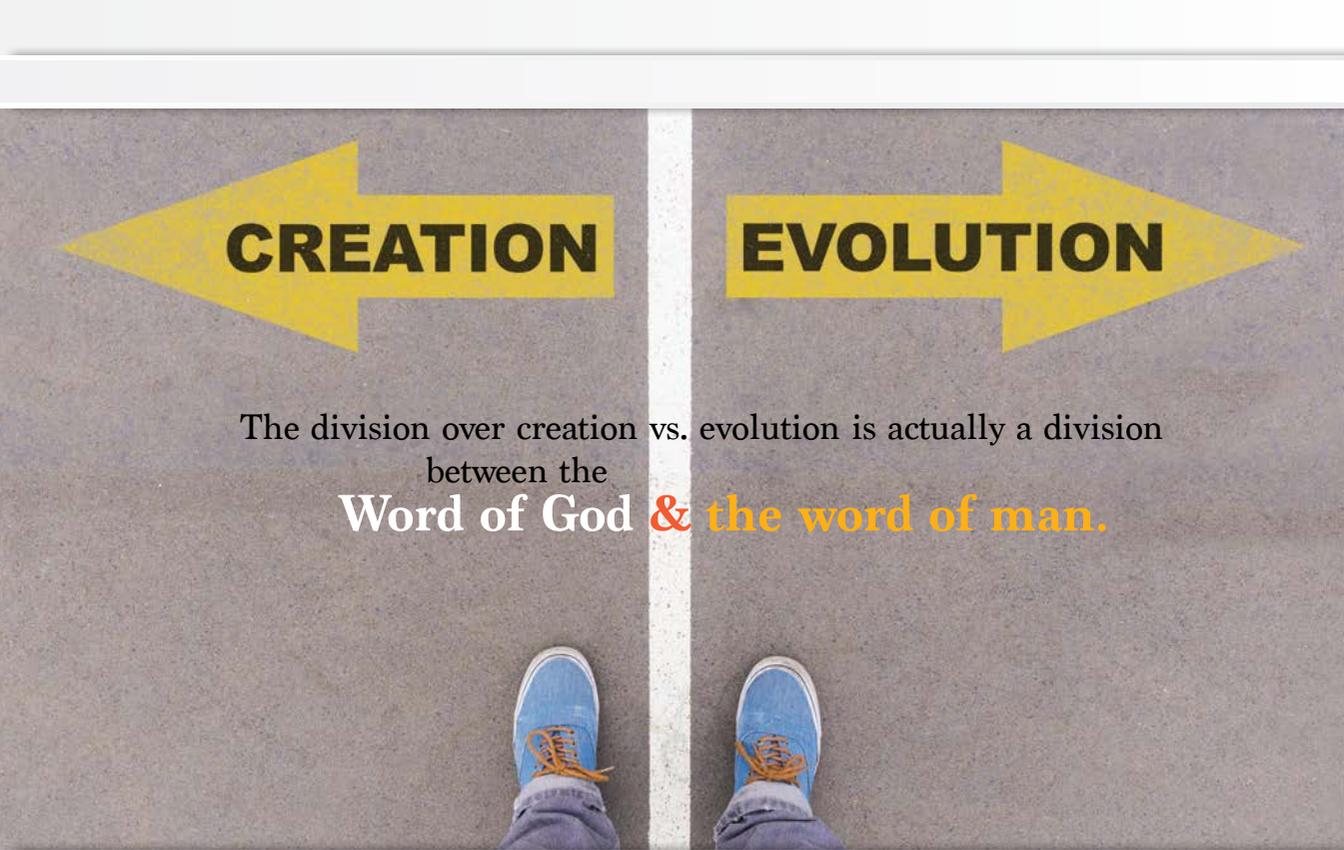
Many Christians believe there is no need to quarrel over creation vs. evolution. They say, “Christians have lots of different views on other subjects, like baptism, tongues, eschatology, etc. Can’t Christians have different views on origins?”

The short answer? No. And here’s why. For the most part, when Christians have different understandings or interpretations of a particular doctrine, they stay within Scripture. Take eschatology, for example. There are

lots of different views: pre-mil, post-mil, a-mil, wind-mil, tread-mil, etc. And in most instances, the people who hold to these different positions view Scripture as the authority for their positions. They’re comparing Daniel with Ezekiel and Revelation to try to rightly understand God’s Word. They’re using the best commentary on the Bible, which is the Bible!

But this is **not** how Christians arrive at different views of origins. The way Christians get different understandings of Genesis is by reinterpreting it with ideas **outside** of the Bible. Imposing **secular** ideas like evolution, the presupposition the earth is millions of years old, uniformitarianism, and naturalism (all tenets of the **pagan religion** of humanism) *onto* the Bible results in things like The Day Age Theory, Gap Theory, Progressive Creation, Theistic Evolution, Framework Hypothesis, Cosmic Temple, etc.

BIBLE REF.
Ephesians 4:13–15
Romans 16:17
Romans 5:12
2 Timothy 3:16



CREATION

EVOLUTION

The division over creation vs. evolution is actually a division between the **Word of God** & **the word of man.**

All of these compromised ideas lead to major textual, doctrinal, and theological contradictions, as we'll see later on. This bending, editing, and manipulating of the Word of God is a failed attempt to make it bow to the word of fallible, finite, sinful man.

The division over creation vs. evolution is actually a division between the Word of God and the word of man. Either God's Word is true or man's word becomes the final authority.

Indeed, the body of Christ is to be unified (Ephesians 4:13–15), but that unity is founded upon the explicit truth of Scripture (Romans 16:17, 2 Timothy 3:16). Will Christians stand united on God's Word, trusting that the Creator of the universe can communicate effectively? Will we believe the account of origins clearly articulated in Genesis, affirmed by Jesus and the biblical authors, and confirmed by science?



Biblical authority



If you took a stethoscope and listened to the heartbeat of our ministry, Answers in Genesis (AiG), what would you hear? Biblical authority.

We often share that AiG is not a creation vs. evolution ministry. AiG is about reaching our lost world and building up the faith of Christians by defending the authority of God's Word where it's being attacked today.

There is no doubt the Bible is under a barrage of assaults today. And one of the primary areas where the enemy has focused his attack is against the Bible's history. Particularly the history revealed in Genesis 1-11.

In a real sense, the devil has executed a covert attack on the foundation of God's Word by getting people to doubt the history of the Bible, with things like evolution, ape-men, big bang, millions of years, etc., to undermine the authority of the Bible, to ultimately undermine the Gospel that's based on that authority.

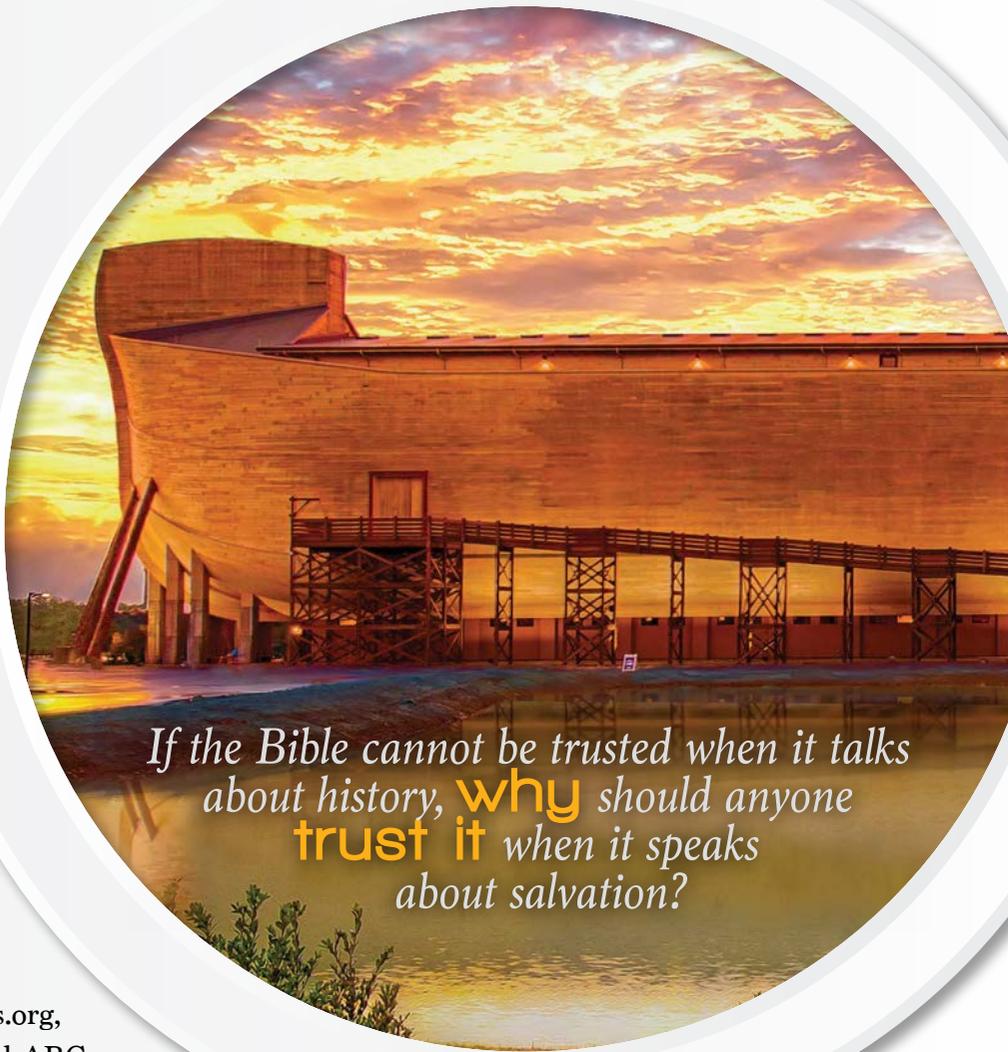
Therefore, we strive to alert believers to the present-day attack and encourage Christians and the Church at large to heed the command of 1 Peter 3:15:

“But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear.”

It is this theme that pulses through AiG's veins, whether we're talking about the state-of-the-art Creation Museum, the

BIBLE REF.

Genesis 1-11
John 3:16
John 17:17
Titus 1:9
1 Peter 3:15



*If the Bible cannot be trusted when it talks
about history, **why** should anyone
trust it when it speaks
about salvation?*

phenomenal
Ark Encounter,
our website at
answersingenesis.org,
our chronological ABC
Sunday School curriculum, our
world-traveling speakers, our books,
our videos, or our curricula, etc.

All of it is dedicated to fighting on the front lines of the modern battle to promote the authority of God's Word, answering the skeptical questions of this age, demonstrating that God's Word is true from cover to cover, and leading to the powerful proclamation of the Gospel.

Bottom line: if the Bible cannot be trusted when it talks about history, why should anyone trust it when it speaks about salvation? If Genesis 1:1 is not true, neither is John 3:16.

It's an issue of authority.