

TAKEAWAY

SEARCHLIGHT

Frequently asked questions

BUT WHAT ABOUT SCIENCE?

Sunday 19th January 2020

INTRODUCTION

We live in a time where many assume that belief in a creator God and good science don't mix, so on Sunday, we looked at how Christian faith and scientific investigation relate to one another.

READ

Genesis 1:1-31

REFLECT

A lot of energy is spent discussing this passage - debates around the Big Bang, how evolutionary biology fits in etc. These are huge and important questions for another time. For now, spend some moments quietly dwelling on the creative genius of God; that He doesn't just create great beauty, but He has made a universe that works. It might be helpful to have a few minutes in silence or some music playing in the background.

WATCH

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EE76nwimuT0&t=23s>

DISCUSS

1. Biology professor Richard Dawkins is perhaps the most well-known of atheist scientists. His view can be summed up in the following quote:

"Religious belief demands that people switch off their own minds, ignore the evidence, and blindly follow a holy book based upon private 'revelation'...The question of whether there exists a supernatural creator, a God, is one of the most important that we have to answer. I think that it is a scientific question. My answer is no."

Dawkins, and those who share his views, often suggest that belief in God requires a person to

reject investigation and reasoning. Do you think this is true? Would you say it is something you have ever done yourself?

2. On Sunday, Matt cited a number of brilliant scientists, both historical and contemporary, who believe in a creator God. Of course, there are also many scientists who do not believe in God. What does this tell us?

3. Is Dawkins right in suggesting that 'the God question' (which he acknowledges to be important) is a scientific question? Or is there more to it?

4. When it comes down to it, why do you believe in God?



5. What are the benefits of science? Think about your own life - how has scientific progress benefited you in particular? (Think medical advances, entertainment, communication, transport etc.)

6. What are the limits of science – what can it not do, or help us with?

7. How, as Christians, can we grow in our appreciation of science? Why is learning about it glorifying to God?

8. Have you ever faced questions or criticism from someone who think your faith is anti-science? How did it make you feel? How did you respond?

PRAY

