

MONTH OF JESUS: YOUR FAITH

Romans 1:20 ... "For since the creation of the world his [God's] invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse."

If you have never seen a miracle, such as a blind person having their sight restored, the sea parting so people can cross on dry land, or someone being resurrected from death, you might have trouble believing in the virgin birth. If you believe the earth with its perfect climate to sustain life began as a bit of dust flying around a universe that no one created, you might not find the Bible convincing. If you believe all animals and man started out as frogs, you might not be willing to accept that Jesus is God, that he died for your sins, and that he rose from the grave and sits at the right hand of the Father in heaven. If you let scientists explain everything about life through their unprovable theories, then you do not need to believe in God or the virgin birth, and that you will someday face judgment.

How do scientists arrive at their theories about how the world was formed? Do they have secret facts and evidence you do not have? Did they find photographs or videos of a speck of dust becoming a planet with living creatures? Do they have pictures of frogs becoming men? Or, even in the absence of photos and videos, are there any eyewitnesses to such things?

The Bible was authored by eyewitnesses to history and stood for thousands of years as the authoritative record of the earth and its people, giving first-hand accounts of God's supernatural works. Only about four hundred years ago did the faithlessness of man give rise to scientific explanations for creation so the existence of God and the birth of Christ can be dispelled. The funny thing about this is that the Bible presents a single explanation for creation, while scientists have many theories that change regularly. The Bible's authors were inspired by God and tell one cohesive story. But scientists cannot agree on anything, so they create hundreds of different theories. I am not against science, which helps develop medicines, plus inventions to make our lives easier. But science has its limits. Scientists can look at cells and microns through their powerful microscopes, but they cannot explain from where those cells and microns come. Wanting to appear smart, they must invent their own explanations.

In some ways the Bible is like a newspaper. It contains facts backed up by other historians and archaeologists. It contains eye-witness accounts of the miracles of God. Thousands of people listened to Jesus' teachings and had their lives changed. The Roman soldier in charge of Jesus' crucifixion believed that Jesus was the Son of God. Hundreds of people saw and spoke to Jesus after he rose from the dead. Most importantly, when we submit to God and accept Jesus as our Lord and Savior, God's Holy Spirit begins to teach us, guide us and explain scriptures to us. Scientists can only refer you to other scientists to support their theories about life, death and the future. Who you trust and believe is up to you. I prefer to believe in facts and the authority of my creator, rather than the unproven imaginations of man.

This challenge to your faith concludes our Month of Jesus. Have you experienced the life-changing move of the Holy Spirit of God in your life, or do you depend upon the ideas and faith of others? Only a personal relationship with Christ will guide you to truth. Why not start this new year as a committed believer who not only loves and worships God, but serves him and tells others about him?

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