

The Goodness of Creation

Dr Stephen Lloyd



John 1:14

**The Word became flesh
and dwelt among us**

Christ-centred creationism

Human identity: God's image

spiritual:

GOD



PEOPLE



PEOPLE



physical:

WORLD

Problems with the physical

- **environmentalism**
- **transgender ideology**
- **video games**

This is the Oasis. It's the place where the limits of reality are your own imagination. You can do anything, go anywhere...ski down the pyramids, climb mount Everest – with Batman...

People come to the Oasis for all the things they can do. They stay because of all the things that they can be – tall, beautiful, scary, a different sex, a different species, live action, cartoon – it's all your call...

Yeah, that's me – well, that's my avatar – at least until I feel like changing. Except for eating, sleeping and bathroom breaks whatever people want to do, they do it in the Oasis. And since everyone is here, this is where we meet each other. It's where we make friends.

**Transhumanism: How far would
you go for a body upgrade?**

Problems with the physical

- **environmentalism**
- **transgender ideology**
- **video games**
- **transhumanism**
- **your body → creation**

(1) Creation and Character: where God is at home

- **where God dwells**

Psalm 119v68:

You are good, and what you do is good.

Genesis 1v3-4:

“And God **said**, “Let there be light,” and there was light. And God **saw** that the light was **good**.

Genesis 1v31:

And God saw **everything** that he had made, and **behold**, it was **very good**.

(1) Creation and Character: where God is at home

- **where God dwells**
- **what God wants**

Deuteronomy 8v7-10:

For the **LORD** your God is bringing you into a **good** land—a land with **streams** and pools of **water**, with **springs** flowing in the valleys and hills; a land with **wheat and barley, vines and fig trees, pomegranates, olive oil and honey**; a land where **bread will not be scarce** and you will **lack nothing**; a land where the rocks are **iron** and you can dig **copper** out of the hills.

Leviticus 26v6:

I will grant **peace** in the land, and you will lie down and **no one will make you afraid**. I will **remove savage beasts** from the land, and the sword will not pass through your country.

(1) Creation and Character: where God is at home

- **where God dwells**
- **what God wants**
- **‘good’ defined by the beginning
(Mark 10v5-6)**

Theistic Evolution: problems

(1) God's character

Environment

Evolution:

- nothing wrong with the world:

““Goodness” = what comes next’

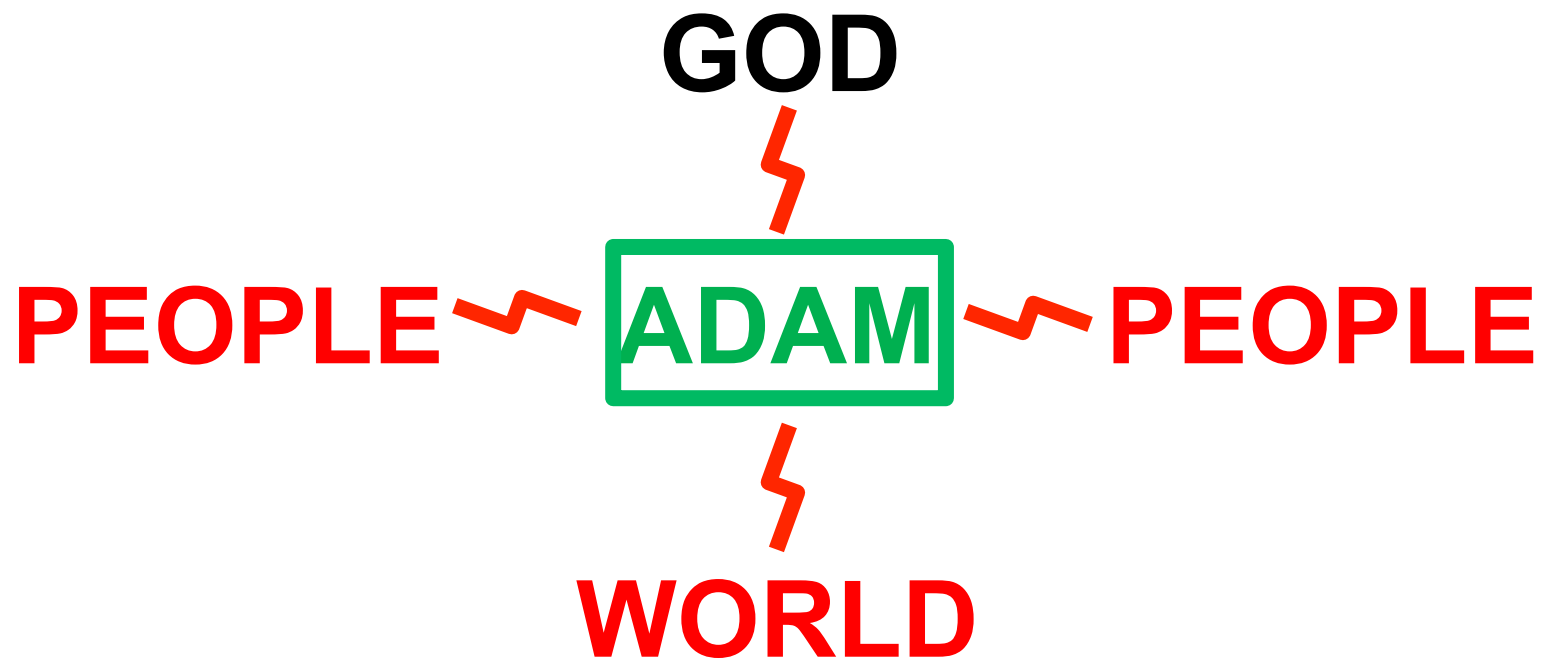
Creation:

- an original pattern for creation

Physical limitations

- **Adam not 'superman'**
- **made to be limited and dependent – we are not God!**

(2) Creation and Curse: fallen creation preserved by God



(2) Creation and Curse: fallen creation preserved by God

- **creation functions differently**
- **NOT: physical = evil**
- **worth preserving**
- **still good: judgement and mercy**

Theistic Evolution: problems

(1) God's character

**(2) silences 'God's megaphone': no
physical judgement on sin**

(3) Creation and Cross: redemption of creation

God of creation = God of redemption

Athanasius:

The renewal of creation has been wrought by the self-same Word who made it in the beginning. There is thus no inconsistency between creation and salvation; for the one Father has employed the same agent for both works, effecting the salvation of the world through the same Word who made it at the first.

(3) Creation and Cross: redemption of creation

- **physical healing**
- **physical death**

Colossians 1v22:

But now he has reconciled you by Christ's **physical body** through death...

1 Peter 2v24:

He himself bore our sins **in his body** on the tree...by **his wounds** you have been healed.

Theistic Evolution: problems

(1) God's character

**(2) silences 'God's megaphone': no
physical judgement on sin**

(3) Jesus' death and resurrection

(3) Creation and Cross: redemption of creation

- **physical healing**
- **physical death**
- **physical resurrection**

Luke 24v39-43:

“Look at my hands and my feet. It is I myself! Touch me and see; a ghost does not have flesh and bones, as you see I have.”

...They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate it in their presence.

(4) Creation and Church: restored creation

Revelation 21v3-4:

And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Now the **dwelling of God is with men, and he will live with them.** They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be **no more death or mourning or crying or pain,** for the old order of things has passed away.”

(4) Creation and Church: restored creation

- **body and creation**

Romans 8v19-21:

The creation waits in eager expectation for the sons of God to be revealed. For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the **creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the glorious freedom of the **children of God.****

Romans 8v22-23:

We know that the **whole creation has been groaning** as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. Not only so, but **we ourselves**, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, **groan inwardly** as we wait eagerly for our adoption as sons, the **redemption of our bodies**.

(4) Creation and Church: restored creation

- **body and creation**
- **Noah's flood**

2 Peter 3v5-7:

...long ago by God's word the heavens existed and the earth was formed out of water and with water. **By water also the world of that time was deluged and destroyed. By the same word the present heavens and earth are reserved for fire, being kept for the day of judgement and destruction of ungodly men.**









(4) Creation and Church: restored creation

- **body and creation**
- **Noah's flood**
- **worth saving**

Theistic Evolution: problems

(1) God's character

**(2) silences 'God's megaphone': no
physical judgement on sin**

(3) Jesus' death and resurrection

(4) devalues creation now

Environment

- **should care for God's world**
 - **but how do it is complicated!**
- **limited in what we can do**
 - **only God can save his planet!**

(5) Goodness of humanity

- **problem of 'species dysphoria'**

John 1:14

**The Word became flesh
and dwelt among us**

(5) Goodness of humanity

- **problem of 'species dysphoria'**
- **Jesus the model human**
- **God and humanity 'match'**

Theistic Evolution: problems

(1) God's character

**(2) silences 'God's megaphone': no
physical judgement on sin**

(3) Jesus' death and resurrection

(4) devalues creation now

(5) incarnation: animal flesh

Christ-centred creationism

**The Word became flesh
and dwelt among us**

John 1:14

Worldviews compared

	GOD	PROBLEM	SOLUTION
ATHEISM	x	x	x
THEISTIC EVOLUTION	✓	x GOD?	?/✓
CREATION	✓	✓	✓

Adam or death:

which came first?



Biblical Creation Trust

Why the order matters for the gospel, science and apologetics

Stephen Lloyd



Origins archive

Origins was the magazine of the Biblical Creation Society and ran for 60 print editions between 1987 and 2015. Its predecessor was *Biblical Creation*, which ran for 24 print editions between 1978 and 1986. We will be uploading selected articles from back issues of these and other BCS

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Flood theology: why does Noah's flood matter?

Stephen Lloyd

The account of creation in Genesis 1 and 2 comprises 56 verses, while the account of the flood in Genesis 6-9 comprises 81

– Theistic evolutionists tend to pay very little attention to the flood. For example, Alexander (2008) gives it a single

because it reinforces the perception that the flood is of minimal theological significance. That affects how creationist

Genesis Sermons



*'equipping the church
on origins'*

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Genesis sermons

These are a series of sermons by Dr Stephen Lloyd preached at Hope Church, Gravesend between November 2017 and January 2019. Worksheets for each sermon can also be downloaded with sermon headings, Scripture references, and questions for reflection and discussion.

Click on the word 'MP3' to open the MP3 file in a new browser window and click the play icon to hear the sermon streamed to your browser. Alternatively you can right click on the word 'MP3' and choose 'save linked file as' (or similar) and it will download the MP3 file. Click on the word 'PDF' to open the PDF file in a new browser window (then save it if you want to). Alternatively you can right click on the word 'PDF' and choose 'save linked file as' (or similar) and it will download the PDF file.

The thinking behind this series of sermons on Genesis was explained in the article 'Reality in Genesis' by Stephen Lloyd on page 2 of the Spring 2019 Prayer News, to view or download this page click here: [PDF](#).

- 1) 1:1 The importance of beginnings 12/11/2017 [MP3](#) [PDF](#)
- 2) 1:1–28 The power to create 26/11/2017 [MP3](#) [PDF](#)
- 3) 1:31 Creation and character 3/12/2017 [MP3](#) [PDF](#)
- 4) 1:26–28 True humanity 14/1/2018 [MP3](#) [PDF](#)
- 5) 2:1–3 Have you entered Gods rest 21/1/2018 [MP3](#) [PDF](#)
- 6) 2:2–17 Sharing Gods home 4/3/2018 [MP3](#) [PDF](#)
- 7) 2:18–25 The marriage made in heaven 18/3/2018 [MP3](#) [PDF](#)