



**THEISTIC EVOLUTION &  
OTHER ACCOMMODATING  
APPROACHES -  
to GEN 1-11**

**Ray Mondragon**

# OPTIONS

1. Grammatical-Historical-Contextual = Literal
2. All Accommodating Approaches - Non-literal

# **CHARACTERISTICS**

- 1. God as ultimate Creator**
- 2. Darwinian evolution & naturalism accepted**
- 3. Non-literal hermeneutic utilized**
  
- 4. Principle of modern scientific theory utilized**
- 5. Old earth theory accepted**
- 6. Non-universal flood accepted**
- 7. Exegetical accuracy lacking**

# **ACCOMMODATING VIEWS**

- **Theistic Evolution**

# THEISTIC EVOLUTION

**God used Process of  
Evolution to Create  
every Living Thing**

# ACCOMMODATING VIEWS

- **Theistic Evolution**
- **Progressive Creation** - interjections

**“the hypothesis that God has increased the complexity of life on earth by successive creations of new life forms over billions of years while miraculously changing the earth to accommodate the new life.”**

**Hugh Ross**

# **PROGRESSIVE CREATION**

**God occasionally injected acts  
of creation**

- 1. Imposes evolution & other theories**
- 2. Eisegesis & reinterpretation**
- 3. Recent & novel**



# **ACCOMMODATING VIEWS**

- **Theistic Evolution**
- **Progressive Creation** - interjections
- **Framework Hypothesis** - genre

**“... advocates of the framework interpretation argue that the six days are not literal days but frames arranged into two panels. They provide a literary structure in which the creative activity of God is topically narrated ... The complete seven-day framework is a metaphorical appropriation of lower-register language denoting an upper-register temporal reality.”**

**Lee Irons**

# **ELEMENTS**

- **Figurative framework - frames**
- **Real events - non-literal elements**
- **Historical events - non-sequential**
- **Accommodates - deep time**

# **FRAMEWORK HYPOTHESIS**

**Literary structure narrating  
topically & theologically  
creative activity of God**

- 1. Historicity evidence**
- 2. Exegetical details**
- 3. Clarity of Scripture**

# ACCOMMODATING VIEWS

- **Theistic Evolution**
- **Progressive Creation** - interjections
- **Framework Hypothesis** - genre
- **Gap Theory** - Gen 1:1-2 gap

# **GAP THEORY**

**Large Time Gap between  
Gen 1:1 and 1:2**

- 1. Accepts Evolution**
- 2. Ignores Geological Issues**
- 3. Grammatical problems**

# ACCOMMODATING VIEWS

- **Theistic Evolution**
- **Progressive Creation** - interjections
- **Framework Hypothesis** - genre
- **Gap Theory** - Gen 1:1-2 gap
- **Day Age Theory** - geological ages
- **Other Views**

# **INCOMPATIBILITY**

## **1. Philosophical Intolerance**



# **INCOMPATIBILITY**

- **Diametrically opposed**
- **Cannot both be true**

**Self-organization by chance  
vs. Intelligent design**

**“Darwinism functions as the scientific support for an overarching naturalistic worldview, which is being promoted aggressively far beyond the bounds of science. Some even say we are entering an age of ‘universal Darwinism,’ when it will no longer be just a scientific theory but a comprehensive worldview.”**

**N Percy**

# **INCOMPATIBILITY**

- 1. Philosophical Intolerance**
- 2. Hermeneutical Inadequacy**

# **HERMENEUTICS**

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## **1. INTERPRETING SCRIPTURE**



**“... to find out the meaning of a statement for the author and for the 1st hearers or readers, and thereupon to transmit that meaning to modern readers.”**

**Mickelsen**

# **HERMENEUTICS**

**1. INTERPRETING  
SCRIPTURE**

**2. INTERPRETING  
CREATION**

# Interpreting Creation

- 1. Methodological Naturalism**
  - a. Imposes naturalistic theory**
  - b. Attempts to harmonize text**
- 2. Biblical Worldview**
  - a. Begin with Scripture**
  - b. Avoid evolutionary theory**
  - c. Interpret physical data**



# TRUTH

- **Science -** changes, incomplete, partial, tentative, imperfect, done by sinful, depraved people
- **Scripture -** unchanging, perfect, complete, free from imperfection, unlimited, eternal, ultimate reality

# **INCOMPATIBILITY**

- 1. Philosophical Intolerance**
- 2. Hermeneutical Inadequacy**
- 3. Scientific Insufficiency**

# YOUNG vs OLD EARTH

<b>Naturalism -</b>	<b>5 Billion years</b> <b>20 for Universe</b>
<b>Scripture -</b>	<b>~6,000 years</b> <b>(Gen 1-2, 5, 11)</b>

# **INCOMPATIBILITY**

- 1. Philosophical Intolerance**
- 2. Hermeneutical Inadequacy**
- 3. Scientific Insufficiency**
- 4. Biblical Inconsistency**

# **ACCOMMODATION**

- 1. Emphasize supporting details**
- 2. Superimpose current theories**
- 3. Reinterpret text**
- 4. Ignore non-supporting details**

# **GENESIS 1**

## **1. Direct Work of God**

# myIhOla, (Elohim) -God

- **Creates -** 1, 21, 27, 2:3
- **Speaks -** 3, 6, 9, 11, 14, 20, 24
- **Separates -** 4
- **Makes -** 7, 16, 25, 2:3
- **Places -** 17
- **Blesses -** 22, 28

# TERMS OF CREATION

1. arb - Create
2. hv[ - Make
3. rxy - Form
4. hnb - Build



# **NO NATURALISM**

- **No millions of years**
- **No step by step, ongoing creation**
- **No struggle for existence**
- **No disease, physical calamities**
- **No sin, no death**

# **GENESIS 1**

- 1. Direct Work of God**
- 2. Immediacy of Fulfillment**
- 3. Means of Creation**

# MEANS

- **His Word**
- **His Wisdom**
- **His Power**



**“God said ...”**

# **GENESIS 1**

- 1. Direct Work of God**
- 2. Immediacy of Fulfillment**
- 3. Means of Creation**
- 4. Definition of Day**

# AAs

- **Non-literal Days**
- **Indefinite Ages**
- **Geological ages**

**Reason - accommodate  
evolution time**

# **SOLAR DAYS**

- 1. Primary Usage**
- 2. 1:14**
- 3. First Use**
- 4. Qualifiers**
- 5. Terms available**
- 6. Other**

# AVAILABLE TERMS

ml;/[ - long duration

Dra; - be long

# **GENESIS 1**

- 1. Direct Work of God**
- 2. Immediacy of Fulfillment**
- 3. Means of Creation**
- 4. Definition of Day**
- 5. Sequence of Events**



# CREATION

**Day 1 - Light**

**Day 2 - Universe**

**Waters Separated**

**Day 3 - Earth**

**Vegetation**

**Grass & Herbs**

**Fruit Trees**

**Day 4 - Sun, Moon, & Stars**

**Day 5 - Aquatic Life**

**Flying Creatures**

**Sea Monsters**

**Day 6 - Domestic Animals**

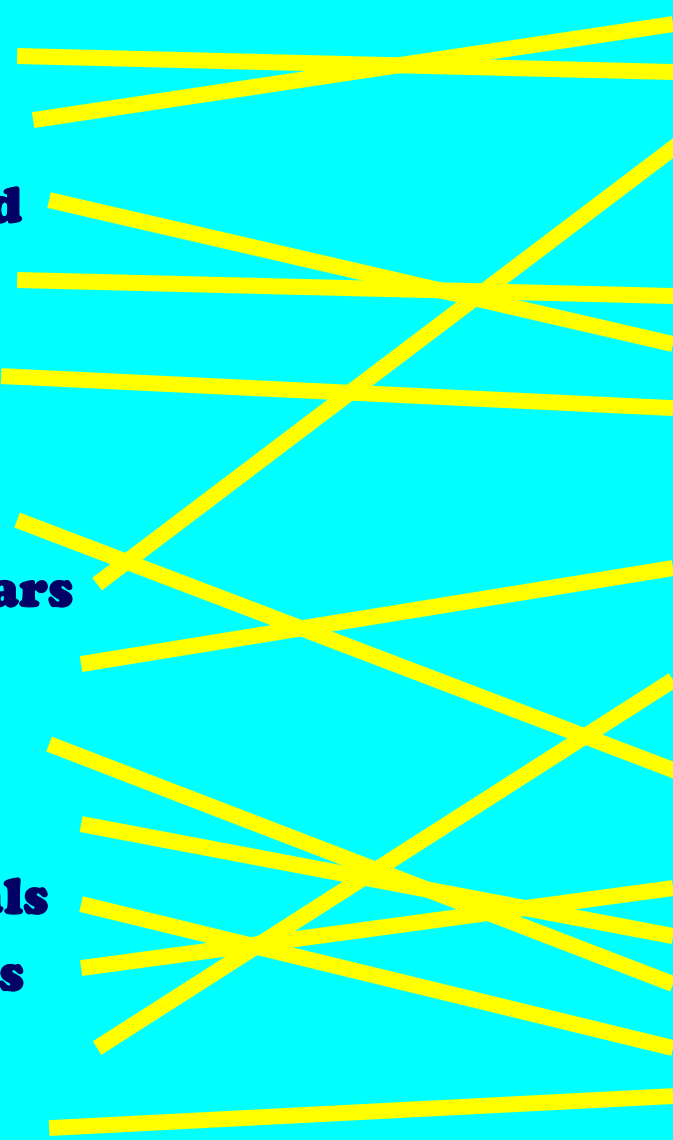
**Creeping Animals**

**Wild Animals**

**Man**

# EVOLUTION

1. Big Bang
2. Light
3. Stars
4. Galaxies
5. Planets
6. Earth
7. Oceans
8. 1<sup>st</sup> Cell
9. Ocean Life
10. Invertebrates
11. Fish
12. Amphibians
13. Land Animals
14. Boneless Fish
15. Seed Plants
16. Insects
17. Reptiles
18. Dinosaurs
19. Birds
20. Mammals
21. Man



# **GENESIS 1**

- 1. Direct Work of God**
- 2. Immediacy of Fulfillment**
- 3. Means of Creation**
- 4. Definition of Day**
- 5. Sequence of Events**
- 6. Fixed Nature of Kinds**

# nymi

- **Occurrence -**

**10 of 33 times in Gen 1**

- **Meaning -**

**Limitations of Variation**

- **Permanence -**

**1Co 15:39**

# **INCOMPATIBILITY**

- 1. Philosophical Intolerance**
- 2. Hermeneutical Inadequacy**
- 3. Scientific Insufficiency**
- 4. Biblical Inconsistency**
- 5. Theological Indefensibility**

# THEOLOGY

- **Theology Proper**
- **Bibliology**
- **Christology**
- **Anthropology**

# CONCLUSION

**Evolution &  
deep time**

**-> Bad**

**Pure Milk  
of Word**

**-> Very  
Good**

**“You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, since you created all things, and because of your will they existed and were created!”**

**Rev 4:11**