

Answering The Critics of God

Jude 3

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FOCAL Read Together Jude 3 Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort [you] that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints.^{KJV}

When Jude wrote to the Church under the inspiration and guidance of God the Holy Spirit he wrote *quickly, definitively, and earnestly*. This text starts:

FOCAL Jude 3 **Beloved¹, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common² salvation, it was needful³ for me to write⁴ unto you**

Jude spoke to the **Beloved**, those whom Jesus Christ had saved, His Church. You will not find the term **Beloved** used for the unbeliever. The **Beloved** is first of all **Jesus Christ**, as the Father has shown us when He said:

Matthew 3:17 And lo a voice from heaven, saying,

KJV All texts are King James Version (authorized), unless otherwise noted

- 1 G27, ἀγαπητός, agapētos, *ag-ap-ay-tos'*, From G25; *beloved*: - (dearly, well) beloved, dear.
- 2 G2839, κοινός, koinos, *koy-nos'*, Probably from G4862; *common*, that is, (literally) shared by all or several, or (ceremonially) *profane*: - common, defiled, unclean, unholy.
- 3 G318, ἀναγκή, anagkē, *an-ang-kay'*, From G303 and the base of G43; *constraint* (literally or figuratively); by implication *distress*: -, distress, must needs, (of) necessity (-sary), neededth, needful.
- 4 Aorist Active Infinitive of G1125, γράφω, graphō, *graf'-o*, A primary verb; to "grave", especially to *write*; figuratively to *describe*: - describe, write (-ing, -ten). First use in text is Present Active Infinitive

This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.

But the nickname **Beloved** is also used for the Church that Jesus died for. **We are His Beloved if we have believed in Him.** The Scripture says:

Romans 9:25-26 As {God} saith also in Hosea, **I will call them my people, which were not my people; and her beloved, which was not beloved.** (26) And it shall come to pass, that **in the place where it was said unto them, Ye are not my people; there shall they be called the children of the living God.**

If you have believed in Christ, then the **righteousness of the Beloved** has been bestowed on you. If you have believed in Him unto salvation then to God you are **no more strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints, and of the household of God (Ephesians 2:19).** We are God's **Beloved** because we are *much loved of God.*

Jude hastened to write to Christ's **Beloved** because the Church was coming under attack. The Church had been under attack *from the outside* from the very beginning. Truly, Jesus told us:

Luke 21:17-19 And **ye shall be hated of all men for my name's sake.** (18) But there shall

not a hair of your head perish. (19) In your patience possess ye your souls.

Jude was not prompted by the Holy Spirit to *quickly write to God's Beloved* because of the external attacks that came on the Church. No matter how large the waves, as long as the water stays out of the boat it will still float. Once water gets in the boat, however, all within are in danger of dying. Jude rushed to write because *water had come in the boat.* In the next verse Jude says this very thing:

Jude 1:4 For there are **certain men crept in unawares, who were before of old ordained to this condemnation, ungodly men, turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness, and denying the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ.**

Some water had crept into the boat, the Ark of the Church, and the Church was under fire. Water has crept into the boat in our day as well. The **Church of the Beloved** has become infused with unbelievers, or with *believers behaving like unbelievers.* Again, the true Church is composed of believers who *love the Lord Jesus Christ.* They are **the Beloved** because they are in a real and ongoing, growing relationship with the Lord of Glory. They are **the Beloved** because they **love the common salvation:**

FOCAL Jude 3 Beloved, when **I gave all**

diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort [you] that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints

That phrase **common salvation** does not mean “common as in plain”, but rather “common, as in the only uniform way that God offers to save people”. God has only given one way to be saved. The Bible says:

Acts 4:12 Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.

Jesus Christ alone is **the Way, the Truth, and the Life – no man comes to the Father but by Him (John 14:6)**. He is the Only Way to find peace with God.

In our day what has *crept into the boat* are men and women who – some possessing degrees from various Theological Seminaries – teach that man *evolved* from lower life forms. All theories of evolution teach that *the first eleven chapters of the Bible are to be taken figuratively and not literally*. **Willmington's Guide To The Bible** defines *Atheistic* and *Theistic Evolution* by saying⁵:

“Atheistic Evolution holds that man is the accidental and random product of a blind and nonpersonal series of chemical and biological events.

5 Willmington's Guide To The Bible, page 668

... It ... is that process by which all living organisms have developed from the simple to the more complex forms ... **Theistic Evolution ... teaches that there is one God, the Creator of matter, who chose the method of evolution to bring all things including man into their present state of existence.”**

ILLUSTRATE We expect the world to attack the Bible and the Creation Account. They are of their father the devil, and **he was a liar from the very beginning (John 8:44)**. Why a thinking Christian would attack the first eleven chapters of our Holy Bible is beyond sense! **Frank Page** gave an illustration recently in **SBC Life**⁶ that I want to use to explain the foolishness of accepting evolutionary theory as truth. Page stated:

“ During the Christmas season, an elderly lady decided that it had become too difficult for her to get out and buy gifts for all of her children and grandchildren. Wanting to continue to be a financial blessing to them, she decided to send money instead of buying gifts. She purchased Christmas cards for all the children and grandchildren and wrote a Merry Christmas greeting as well as the phrase which she included instructing them to "buy your own present this year." She mailed the cards hoping that this would be an acceptable alternative. However, in January as she was cleaning up her desk, she was horrified to find the checks which she had written to her children and grandchildren. It came to her realization that she had sent out Christmas cards with the instructions for her family to buy their own

6 SBC Life, November 2006, page 3

gifts without including the money for them to buy the gifts!”

If we fail to do as Jude directs us to do:

FOCAL Jude 3 Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort [you] that ye should **earnestly contend⁷ for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints.**

The words **earnestly contend** comes from the Greek , *ἐπαγωνίζομαι*, *epagōnizomai*, (pronounced *ep-ag-onid'-zom-ahee*), which means *to focus all your energies on so as to win*. We are to **struggle to defend that faith which was once delivered to the saints**. People ask, “What's wrong with evolution? After all, hasn't it been scientifically proven?” What's wrong with evolution is that *any acceptance of it removes all validity from the Christian faith*.

Jesus Christ Believed In – And Taught - Special Creation

Matthew 19:4 And he answered and said unto them, **Have ye not read, that he which made them at the beginning made them male and**

⁷ Present Middle Infinitive of G1864, *ἐπαγωνίζομαι*, *epagōnizomai*, *ep-ag-onid'-zom-ahee*, From G1909 and G75; to *struggle* for: - earnestly contend for.

female,

Mark 10:6 But **from the beginning of the creation God made them male and female.**

Our Lord Jesus *specifically cited* Genesis 1:26-27 (Have you not read?) stating that **God made them male and female**. This was what God did *from the beginning of creation*. No allowance is made here for evolution, either theistic or atheistic. God designed mankind male and female in His own image. **Dr. Henry Morris** of the **Institute For Creation Research** stated⁸:

“The current opinion is that the cosmos evolved about 16 billion years ago, the earth about 4.6 billion, primitive life perhaps two billion, and human life about one million years ago. The Lord Jesus, on the other hand (who was there, having Himself created all things—note John 1:1-3), taught that men and women were made essentially at the same time as the cosmos itself, when He said that "from the beginning God . . . made them male and female" (Mark 10:6). "The beginning" obviously was a reference to Genesis 1:1, and Christ was specifically citing Genesis 1:26.”

In another place Jesus condemned the unbelievers in Israel who had killed God's prophets by saying:

Luke 11:50-51 That **the blood of all the**

⁸ <http://www.icr.org/article/2031/>

prophets, which was shed from the foundation of the world, may be required of this generation; (51) From the blood of Abel unto the blood of Zacharias, which perished between the altar and the temple: verily I say unto you, **It shall be required of this generation.**

Jesus Christ recognized the **first prophet martyred** to be **Abel**, the son of Adam. Jesus said of Abel's blood that **it was shed from the foundation or beginning of the world.** Jesus believed in and taught the Genesis account of creation. Our Lord Jesus told His listeners who rejected Him as Savior:

John 5:46-47 For had ye believed Moses, ye would have believed me: for he wrote of me. (47) But if ye believe not his writings, how shall ye believe my words?

Moses wrote of Jesus when he, led by the Holy Spirit of God, wrote the first five books of our Bible (Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy). Jesus used the Books of Moses or what we call the Pentateuch to support His ministry as Messiah. Jesus said **Moses ... wrote of Me.** The Messiah was first prophesied in **Genesis 3:15** when God told the devil ...

... And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.

Jesus Christ believed that God made the Sabbath for man:

Mark 2:27 ... The sabbath was made for man, and not man for the sabbath:

The **Sabbath** is a great proof that the *six days of creation* are *six literal twenty four hour days*. The Lord commanded the Sabbath to be a day of rest later on in the establishment of the Ten Commandments (**Exodus 20**), yet in the very beginning chapters of the Scripture we read:

Genesis 2:2-3 And on the seventh day God ended his work which he had made; and he rested on the seventh day from all his work which he had made. (3) And God blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it: because that in it he had rested from all his work which God created and made.

Exodus 20:8-11 Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy. (9) Six days shalt thou labor, and do all thy work: (10) But the seventh day is the sabbath of the LORD thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy

gates: (11) For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it.

The **sabbath or seventh day** is tied to the other six days of special creation. Some people will try to make the *days* of Genesis into *long spans of time*. This cannot be! God commanded that Israel keep a **Sabbath or seventh day** holy, to do no work in it, because God Himself rested on that day. If the other days of Genesis are *millions or thousands of years old* then the Sabbath of itself must be *millions or thousands of years old*. It makes absolutely no sense!

Jesus Christ believed in and taught **Special Divine Creation** – that God made all things in six literal days. Jesus observed the seventh day Sabbath. Evolutionary dating and suppositions cannot be correct if Jesus is correct. You must choose to believe in Him or believe in evolution – there is no middle ground.

Evolution & Scripture Diametrically Opposed	
Evolution Teaches	Scripture Teaches
Life began on the sea bottom	Life began on dry land (Genesis 1:11-12)
Birds existed <i>after</i> insects	Birds existed <i>before</i> insects (Genesis 1:20, 24)
Fish evolved millions of	Birds and fish were created

Evolution & Scripture Diametrically Opposed	
years before birds	at <i>the same time</i> (Genesis 1:21)
All life descends from a single cell	Many types of life created, each to reproduce <i>after its own kind</i> (1 Corinthians 15:39-49; Genesis 1:11-12, 21, 24-25)
Adam and Eve descended from an ape simultaneously	God made man of the dust of the ground (Genesis 2:7), and woman came from man
Man was originally a meat eater	Man was originally vegetarian (Genesis 1:29)
The earth was created over billions of years	The earth and all that is was created over six <i>literal</i> twenty-four hour days (Genesis 1:5, 8, 13, 19, 23, 31)

Evolution Directly Attacks Salvation Itself

FOCAL Jude 3 Beloved ... ye should **earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints**

Romans 5:12 Wherefore, as **by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that**

all have sinned: ... Romans 5:15 But not as the offense, so also is the free gift. For if **through the offense of one many be dead, much more the grace of God, and the gift by grace, which is by one man, Jesus Christ, hath abounded unto many.** ... Romans 5:17-19 For if **by one man's offense death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ.)** (18) Therefore as by the offense of one judgment came upon all men to condemnation; even so by the righteousness of one the free gift came upon all men unto justification of life. (19) For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the **obedience of one shall many be made righteous.**

We must reject all claims that *evolutionary theory supposes* because salvation in our faith is based on the reality of **one Adam offending God, and by his offense the entire world comes under the sentence of death.** If the Creation Account is incorrect then death did not enter into humanity with sin – death came *before* Adam's fall. Jesus Christ came to pay the penalty for sin. **By one man – Adam – sin entered into the world, and death**

by sin. Since this is true the Bible teaches that **by the second Adam – Jesus Christ – payment for sin was made.** All who believe on Him are redeemed from spiritual death.

If you cut Adam out of the picture and make *evolution* the creator, then you have removed the need for Christ. The faith of the evolutionist is therefore *against God, against Christ, and against the Christian Way of life.* Evolution and Christianity are not compatible! Man and woman did not evolve, but were created by God.

1 Corinthians 11:8-9, 12 For **the man is not of the woman; but the woman of the man.** (9) **Neither was the man created for the woman; but the woman for the man. ...** (12) **For as the woman is of the man, even so is the man also by the woman; but all things of God.**

The woman was created out of the man, just as God has taught in the Book of Genesis. **All things are of God,** not of evolution but of God.

The Lies Of Evolution

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saints

“The account of the origin of life that I shall give is necessarily speculative; by definition, nobody was around to see what happened”.⁹

“It is absolutely safe to say that if you meet somebody who claims not to believe in evolution, that person is ignorant, stupid or insane (or wicked, but I'd rather not consider that)”.¹⁰

Evolution is not good science, as science is based on events that are *repeatable, observable, and provable*. Though the evolutionist **Richard Dawkins** will mock the Christian as **ignorant, insane, or stupid**, he also says **“no one was around to see what happened”**. Actually Someone was around to see what happened in the beginning of creation. That Someone is God. God speaks to us from the whirlwind, saying:

Job 38:4-7 Where wast thou when I laid the foundations of the earth? declare, if thou hast understanding. (5) Who hath laid the measures thereof, if thou knowest? or who hath stretched the line upon it? (6) Whereupon are the foundations thereof fastened? or who laid the corner stone thereof; (7) When the morning stars sang

⁹ Evolutionist Richard Dawkins, *The Selfish Gene* (1989) p.14

¹⁰ “Put Your Money on Evolution” *The New York Times* (April 9, 1989) section VII p.35, Evolutionist Richard Dawkins

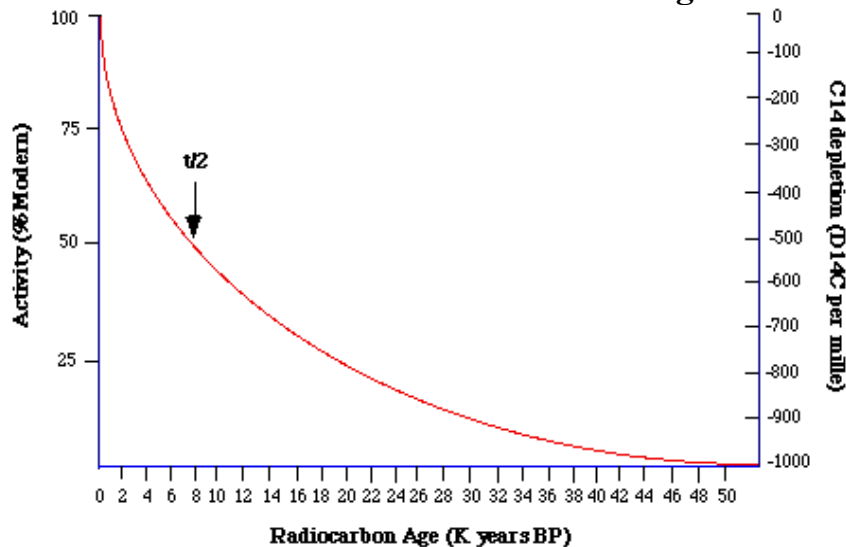
together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy?

Evolution – not a science *but an empty faith* – cannot answer with certainty as to the Creation of life. Like Dawkins said, **nobody was around** – nobody that is, but God. Since He alone is the eyewitness of Creation then it is He that we must listen to. **Evolution is a faith**, a faith in nothingness, a faith in chance and chaos, a faith in accident. **Christianity is a faith in the real living God Who made all things**. The following quote emphasizes this:

“But what if the vast majority of scientists all have faith in the one unverified idea? The modern 'standard' scientific version of the origin of life on earth is one such idea, and we would be wise to check its real merit with great care. Has the cold blade of reason been applied with sufficient vigor in this case? Most scientists want to believe that life could have emerged spontaneously from the primeval waters, because it would confirm their belief in the explicability of Nature - the belief that all could be explained in terms of particles and energy and forces if only we had the time and the necessary intellect. They also want to believe because their arch opponents - religious fundamentalists

such as creationists - do not believe in life's spontaneous origin. It is this combative atmosphere which sometimes encourages scientists writing and speaking about the origin of life to become as dogmatic and bigoted as the creationist opponents they so despise."¹¹

In order to prove their faith the evolutionist uses several tools. One of the tools used is **Carbon Dating**.



Most scientists have stopped using **carbon dating** to set the age of the earth. Why? **Carbon 14 is a radioactive element with a half-life of 5730 years. This means that half of the carbon 14 will decay in 5730 years. By**

11 (Scott, Andrew [biochemist and science writer], "The Creation of Life: Past, Future, Alien," Basil Blackwell: Oxford UK, 1986, pp.111-112.

50,000 years, it will be almost completely gone, as shown in this diagram by Thomas Higham. **2** The red line shows how much carbon 14 will be in a sample, starting at 100% zero years ago, decaying to 0% after 50,000 years before the present (50 K years BP).¹²

You cannot prove the earth to be millions or billions of years old with a tool that will only measure to 50,000 years. What about the other dating methods. Again I quote:

"Other radioactive dating techniques (potassium-argon, rubidium-strontium, uranium-lead, etc.) can't be calibrated against historical data because their half-lives are so long that the theoretical line would go from 100% at 0 years ago to 99.9999% (or something very close to 100%) at 5,000 years ago. In other words, in a mere 5,000 years, there isn't time for any significant amount of the radioactive material to decay, so one can't verify that the expected amount has decayed. But carbon 14 dating can be calibrated, and it has been discovered that certain corrections have to be made to "radiocarbon years" to convert them to "calendar years." Knowing these correction factors allows

12 Graph and boldfaced quote from "Scientists Against Evolution", at http://www.ridgecrest.ca.us/~do_while/sage/v10i10f.htm

carbon 14 measurements to yield very accurate ages, back to 4 or 5 thousand years. But beyond 5,000 years, we have to guess what the correction factors are, so the ages are only as good as our guesses."¹²

In other words, *no radiometric dating method is accurate beyond 5000 years*. These quotes that I gave you, by the way, are not made by Christians, but by unbelieving Scientists who are *truly Scientists*. **How old the earth is does not matter to the Christian faith, but it matters greatly to the Evolutionist faith.** The Christian believes that God created all things in six literal days by the Word of His Mouth. If the earth is 6000 years old or 60,000 years old, it makes no difference to the believer in Christ. **You can not look at the Scripture and make a point that the earth is so many years old.** The Bible makes no claims on the age of the earth. The Scripture's claim is that God created all things in six literal days – then rested on the seventh day. These were literal days because God imposed **the weekly Sabbath** on man – we were to take off and rest one day of every week, just as God did.

Suppose there were an accurate way of measuring the age of the earth? Suppose this method measured the age of rocks, and set them at 1 *billion years old*. Is this a threat to Christian faith? Absolutely not! Isn't it possible that God, Whose name is **Ancient of Days**, could have created these things as they are? We were not there, but God was there. The Christian rests in his faith, believing that God made all things, and made them well. If rocks

measure out to be *trillions* of years old, so what? Does this disprove God's creating hand? Absolutely not! **Yet science cannot accurately date the earth beyond 5000 years – all such dating is mere faith on their part, not scientific proof.**

Science loves to trot out things like *dinosaurs* and *cavemen* as proof of evolution. Yet the Bible spoke of dinosaurs long before the word was ever invented. We read of **leviathan** (also called **dragons**) who lived among mankind:

Psalms 74:12-14 For God is my King of old, working salvation in the midst of the earth. (13) Thou didst divide the sea by thy strength: thou didst break the heads of the dragons in the waters. (14) Thou didst break the heads of leviathan in pieces, and gavest him to be meat to the people inhabiting the wilderness.

Unlike that which evolutionary “science” teaches, the Scripture teaches that dinosaurs (leviathan or dragons) lived alongside of man, and man trapped these beasts for food. Another type of dinosaur called **behemoth**:

Job 40:15-17 Behold now behemoth, which I made with thee; he eateth grass as an ox. (16) Lo now, his strength is in his loins, and his force is in the navel of his belly. (17) He moveth his tail like a cedar: the sinews of his stones are wrapped together.

Interestingly enough, God specifies that **behemoth** was **made with man**. Early commentaries on this verse say that this is a reference to either the *hippopotamus* or the *elephant*, yet the Lord says **he moveth his tail like a cedar**. The tail on both the hippopotamus and the elephant are tiny, not cedar like! This sounds more like a dinosaur than anything else.

Christians can and should defend their faith in God. What we believe is intelligent, rational, and will stand up under scrutiny. I encourage you all to prepare yourselves by studying God's Word and by trusting it. Evolutionary "Science" has no viable proofs because, as Dawkins said, nobody was around then.

No one, that is, but God. Why not trust the only Eyewitness that we have?

May God touch your hearts with these words.

