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Church wars: 'Evolution Sunday' vs. 'Creation Sunday'

Michael F. Haverluck (OneNewsNow.com) Saturday, February 14, 2015

In commemoration of International Darwin Day, which observes the birthday of Charles Darwin — the founder of modern-day evolution promoted by the government and its schools — nearly 500 churches have pledged to celebrate "Evolution Sunday" in their congregations this week.



For nearly eight years, since 2006, thousands of church congregations have jumped on board to celebrate Evolution Sunday and similar events affiliated with Darwin's birthday on February 12, professing to believe that evolution is compatible with the Bible, according to the Christian News Network.

This year, to counter these churches' embrace of the anti-biblical teaching, other congregations are planning to observe "Creation Sunday," which celebrates the biblical Creator of the universe and the scientific account of creation outlined in Genesis.

Joining atheists across the globe in their celebration of Darwin and his problematic and frequently debunked theory of evolution, churches have annually hosted and celebrated "Evolution Sunday" or "Evolution Weekend" events under the advice of atheist Dr. Michael Zimmerman.

"Evolution Weekend is an opportunity for serious discussion and reflection on the relationship between religion and science," Zimmerman proclaims on his website promoting the evolution events — most of which are taking place in New York, California, Ohio and Pennsylvania. "An ongoing goal has been to elevate the quality of the discussion on this critical topic, and to show that religion and science are not adversaries."

Instead of examining the Scriptures for the biblical account of creation and exploring the numerous groundbreaking scientific discoveries over the years corroborating God's creation as outlined in Genesis, thousands of churches have invited in teachings that have been used for more than a century to undermine biblical authority and the faith of Christians.

Standing on solid ground

Churches deciding to take a stand for biblical inerrancy regarding the seven days of creation in Genesis 1 and the Flood account of Genesis 7 are using Creation Sunday to affirm the accuracy of the Bible and the scientific validity of creation.

<u>Defending Genesis</u> founder Tony Breeden established and organized Creation Sunday to point out the apostasy of Evolution Sunday. He attests that "evolution undermines the authority of God's Word and the foundational basis of the Gospel," declaring that churches must defend the very tenets upon which their beliefs are founded.

"If I can't trust the plain meaning of the Bible in Genesis because of the all-natural presuppositions of science, why should I trust it when it speaks of a virgin birth, water turning into wine, the resurrection of Christ, or any other supernatural claim in the Bible?" Breeden posed to the Christian News Network. "It's a slippery slope and it undermines the foundational basis of the Gospel itself."

According to Breeden, Evolution Sunday is predicated on what he calls non-overlapping magisteria (NOMA), an unbiblical concept teaching that religion and science are incompatible, claiming that religion is only good for discovering meaning and morality, while science deals with theories and facts.

"The problem with this concept is that it commits the fact-value distinction," Breeden contends. "Christianity makes claims (values) that are rooted in historical fact."

Breeden puts forth evidence that Christianity and evolution are in fact antithetical — a direct contradiction to the claims underpinning NOMA.

"Jesus Himself refuted the false premise behind NOMA when he said to Nicodemus, 'If I have told you earthly things, and ye believe not, how shall ye believe, if I tell you of heavenly things?" Breeden pointed out. "Since many of Christianity's doctrines rest on historical claims of fact, in practice, NOMA becomes *Scriptura sub scientia*[Scripture below science], where the authority of the Bible is steadily surrendered to the claims of science chained to pure naturalism — which does not allow for a supernatural Creator, the resurrection of Christ, or divine revelation in the first place!"

Learning from mistakes

The motivation behind Breeden's Creation Sunday derived from personal doubts he experienced early in his spiritual walk, when he left his faith after discovering that evolution challenged the biblical creation account. Breeden explains that God eventually redirected him on the right path, leading him to find the flawed reasoning and debunked theories that undergired the problematic concept of evolution, which has been argued to be a religion in and of itself — requiring blind faith to believe in unproven and unexplained principles that it presents as fact.

"As the Holy Spirit began to guide me into all truth, as the Scriptures promise, I began to realize that millions of years of molecules-to-man evolution actually undermines the faith," Breeden shared.

Not wanting Christians to fall down the same path he once took and end up falling away from their faith because of evolutionary teaching, Breeden developed CreationLetter.com to give Bible believers a way to support the creation account found in Genesis. Creation Sunday spawned from the website, allowing Breeden to provide churches with a tangible way to root their congregations in the truth of the Bible before the false doctrine of evolution has a chance to reach the pews.

"Creation Sunday was written into the very fabric of the Creation Letter, where we urged 'churches to send a clear message of the enduring authority of God's Word by celebrating a Creation Sunday instead of the Clergy Letter Project's proposed Evolution Sunday," Breeden recounted. "The first Creation Sunday was held in 2009."

Breeden often uses the captain of Darwin's HMS Beagle, Robert FitzRoy, who ended up challenging the naturalist's observations and writings, as an example for modern-day Christians when it comes to defending their faith against evolution. Darwin was greatly influenced by the work of the foremost geologist of his day, Charles Lyell, who promoted the naturalistic theory of uniformitarianism in his *Principles of Geology*, which spurred Darwin to view all of his observations through his mentor's rose-colored lenses. FitzRoy argued against Darwin's teachings using his own geological observations and the authority of God's Word concerning creation.

"When you compare the spiritual journeys of FitzRoy and Darwin, they couldn't be more different," Breeden argues. "Thanks to Lyell's book, Darwin saw uniformitarian geology everywhere he looked; in FitzRoy's later journeys, he began to see the hallmarks of the Deluge in the geology he surveyed. He later denounced Darwin's theory publicly, on numerous occasions, and begged people to believe God rather than man."

Breeden wants to stem the tide of evolutionary thinking that has permeated every vestige of life in American society, including the schools, media, entertainment industry, business sector and now, even the Church. He says that this trend of promoting evolution that is affecting the faith of Christians in the United States and abroad must be counteracted with the truth of God's Word — starting in the church sanctuary and the home.

"Even in Darwin's day, there were ministers who said that there was no contradiction between evolution and Genesis, [and] the fruit of that position is telling, for today Europe is a spiritual wasteland where Christianity is concerned," Breeden asserted. "This is precisely why we urge churches in the United States and abroad to make a stand for the ultimate authority of the Bible and the historical veracity of Genesis by celebrating a Creation Sunday rather than an Evolution Sunday."