



**Today's Sermon:  
"Are the Scriptures  
compatible with science on  
the origin of life?  
Genesis 1-2**

**Financial Update!!**

**I. What CAN we learn from  
Genesis 1-2 about the origin of  
life?**

A. What is the point of  
the text?

B. Grasp the text in their  
town.

C. What do the words  
mean?

**II. What questions is it  
answering?**

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.

**III. Does Genesis answer how  
old the Earth is?**

**IV. Can Science tell us where  
life begins?**

**Gospel Application**

Genesis 1:1-7

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**Further Reading – sources from today**

Rob Stadler, *The Scientific Approach to Evolution: What they didn't teach you in Biology*, (CreateSpace: North Charleston, SC), 2016.

On Genesis

Richard F. Carlson and Tremper Longman III, *Science, Creation, and the Bible: Reconciling Rival Theories of Origins*(2010).

J. Richard Middleton, *The Liberating Image: The Imago Dei in Genesis 1*(2005).

John Walton, *The Lost World of Genesis One: Ancient Cosmology and the Origins Debate*(2009) and *The Lost World of Adam and Eve: The Bible and Human Origins*

ON Ancient Near Eastern Background

Kenton L. Sparks, *Ancient Texts for the Study of the Hebrew Bible: A Guide to the Background*(2005)

On Adam and Eve, Evolution, and Christian Theology

-Timothy Keller, "Creation, Evolution, and Christian Laypeople." [www.biologos.org/uploads/projects/Keller\\_white\\_paper.pdf](http://www.biologos.org/uploads/projects/Keller_white_paper.pdf)

Daniel C. Harlow, "After Adam: Reading Genesis in an Age of Evolutionary Science" [www.asa3.org/ASA/PSCF/2010/PSCF9-10Harlow.pdf](http://www.asa3.org/ASA/PSCF/2010/PSCF9-10Harlow.pdf)



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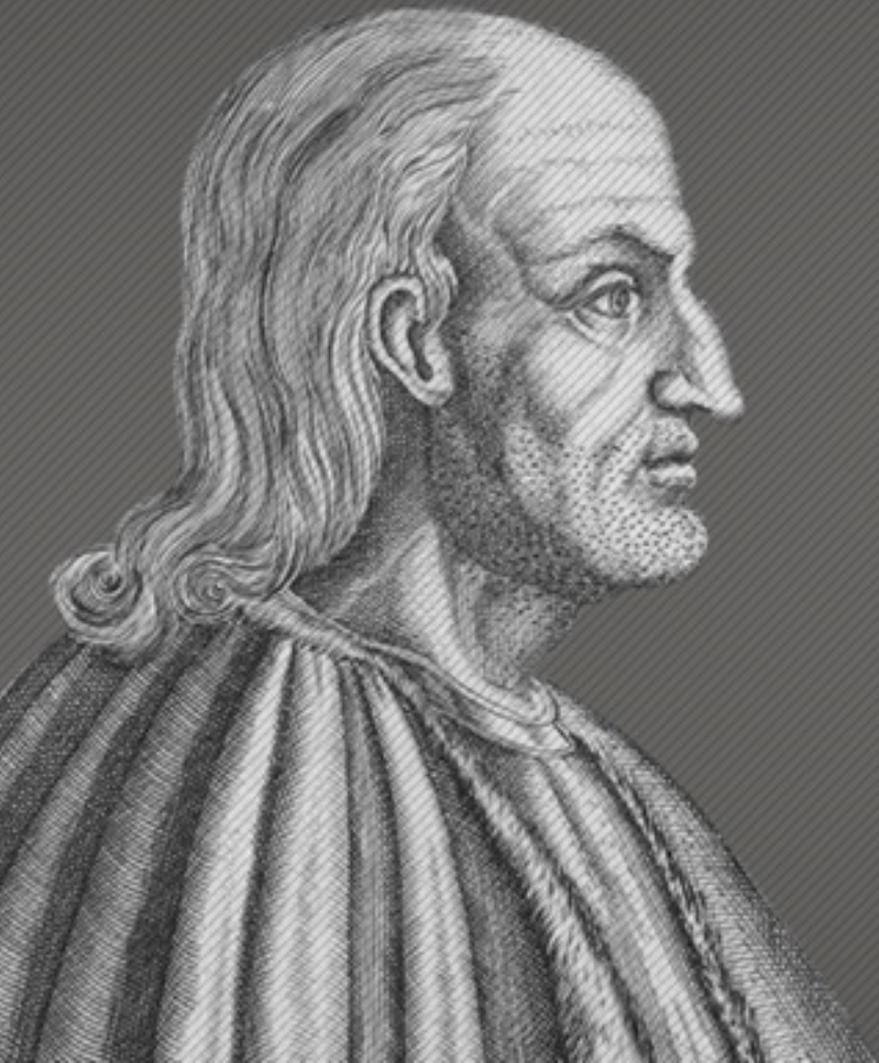
-Timothy Keller, "Creation, Evolution, and Christian Laypeople." [www.biologos.org/uploads/projects/Keller\\_white\\_paper.pdf](http://www.biologos.org/uploads/projects/Keller_white_paper.pdf)

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# Second Quarter Financial Update!!



HOPE  
LOWERTOWN  
ST. PAUL



ANSELM

1033–1109

# DAVID HUME



Faith is the great cop-out, the great excuse to evade the need to think and evaluate evidence. Faith is belief in spite of, even because of, the lack of evidence.



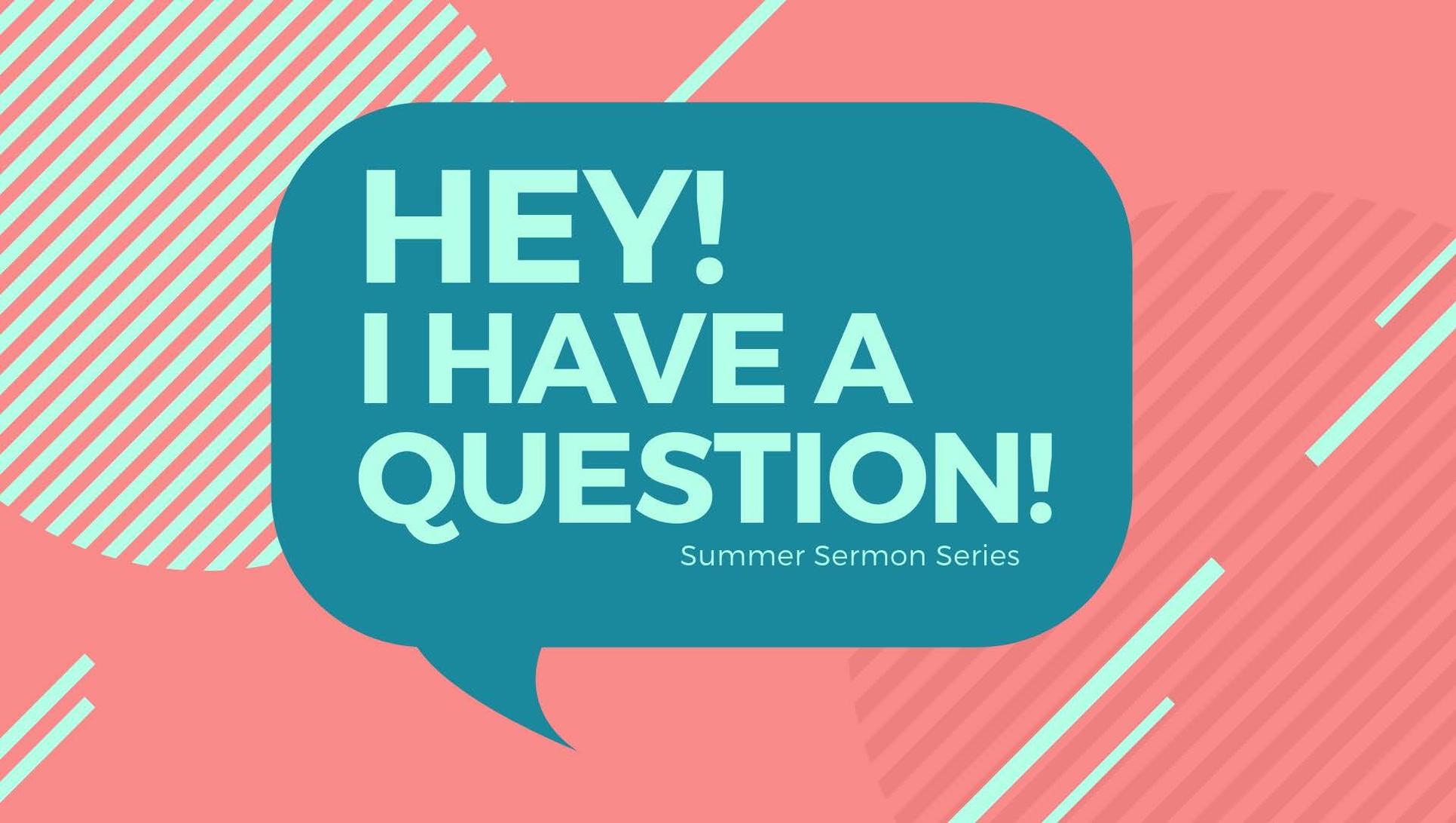
~ Richard Dawkins



<sup>1</sup> Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see. <sup>2</sup> This is what the ancients were commended for.

<sup>3</sup> By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God's command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible.

~Hebrews 11:1-3

The image features a vibrant coral background with diagonal teal stripes. A large, rounded teal speech bubble is centered, containing the text 'HEY! I HAVE A QUESTION!' in white, bold, sans-serif font. Below the main text, 'Summer Sermon Series' is written in a smaller, white, sans-serif font.

**HEY!  
I HAVE A  
QUESTION!**

Summer Sermon Series

Three Weeks ago:

*“Is the Bible a reliable guide for my life?”*

*Focus Passage: 2 Timothy 3:16-17*

This Week's Question:

Are the Scriptures compatible with science  
on the origin of life?

*Genesis 1-2*

This Week's Question:  
Ancient Text vs. Modern Science

*Genesis 1-2*









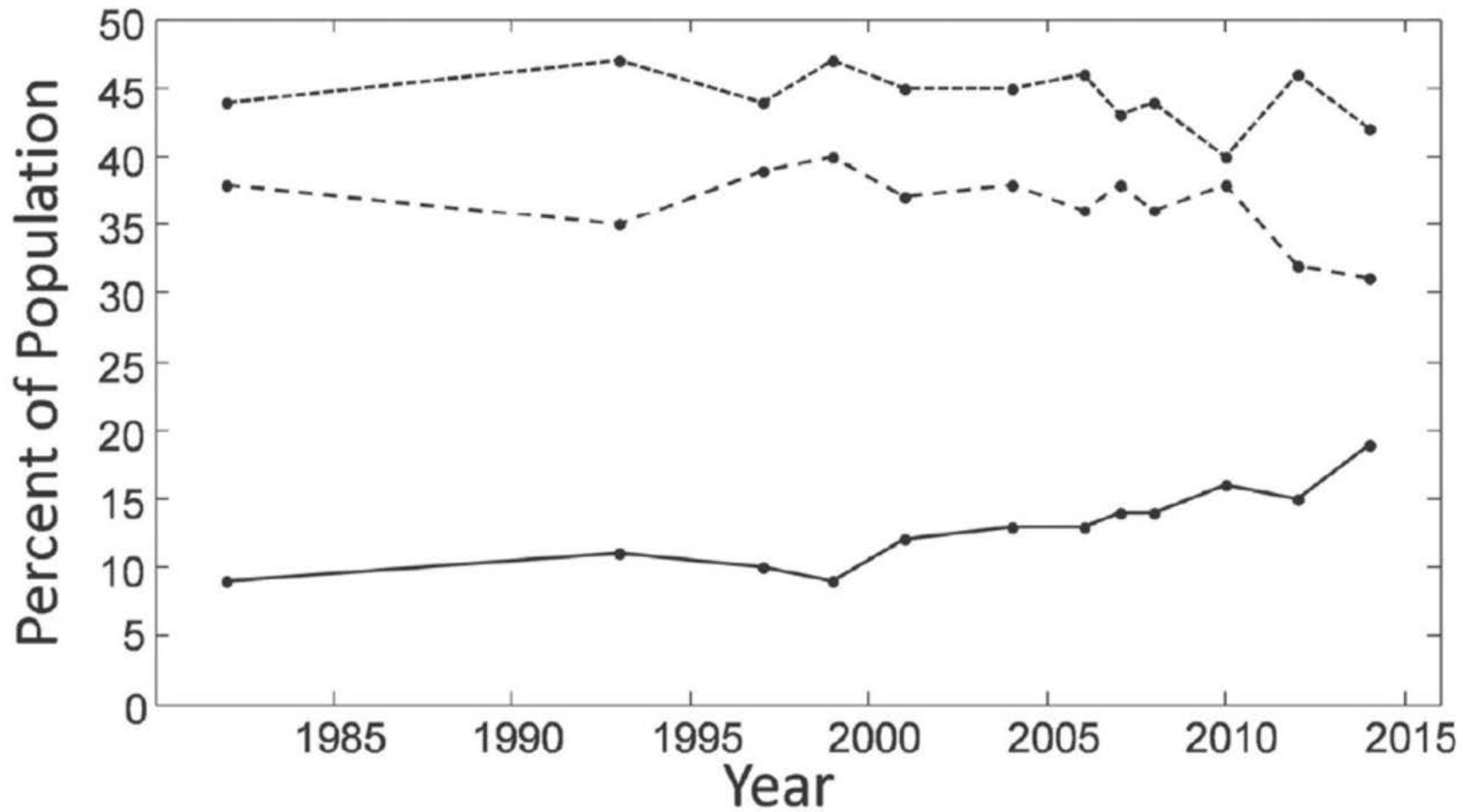
THE  
**SCIENTIFIC  
APPROACH  
TO  
EVOLUTION**

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WHAT THEY DIDN'T TEACH YOU IN BIOLOGY

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**ROB STADLER**

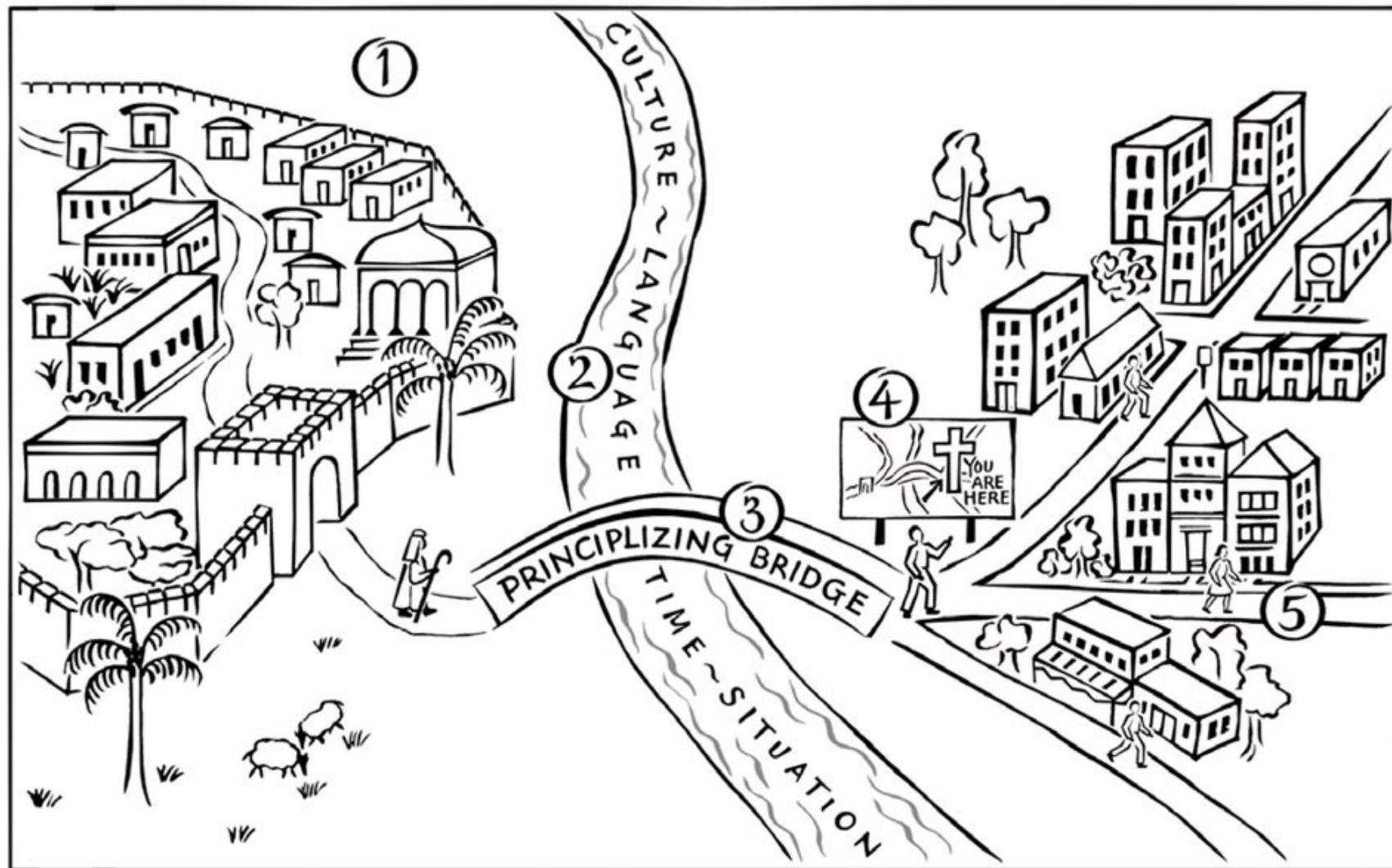


What CAN we learn from Genesis 1-2  
about the origin of life.

What is the point of the text?

Effective communication requires a body of agreed-upon words, terms, and ideas, a common ground of understanding. For the speaker this often requires accommodation to the audience by using words and ideas they will understand. For the audience, if they are not native to the language and cultural matrix of the speaker, this means reaching common ground may require seeking out additional information of explanation. In other words, the audience has to adapt to a new and unfamiliar culture.

~John Walton, *Ancient Near Eastern Thought and the Old Testament* (Baker Books, 2006), 19-20.



What do the words mean?

## Genesis 1:1-8

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. <sup>2</sup> Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters.

<sup>3</sup> And God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light. <sup>4</sup> God saw that the light was good, and he separated the light from the darkness. <sup>5</sup> God called the light “day,” and the darkness he called “night.” And there was evening, and there was morning – the first day.

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**NOT: a dialogue with modern scientific ideas about world origins.**

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**IS: Who are we, where are we, why are we here, who are the gods?**

# 1. There is One True God

## Genesis 1:1-8

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1. There is One True God
2. God created the land and sky (matter) out of nothing with his breath.

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1. There is One True God.
2. God created the land and sky (matter) out of nothing with his words.
3. He creates order out of chaos.
4. He creates animals in their “kinds”

## Genesis 1:24-27

<sup>24</sup> And God said, “Let the land produce living creatures according to their kinds: the livestock, the creatures that move along the ground, and the wild animals, each according to its kind.” And it was so. <sup>25</sup> God made the wild animals according to their kinds, the livestock according to their kinds, and all the creatures that move along the ground according to their kinds. And God saw that it was good.

1. There is One True God.
2. God created the land and sky (matter) out of nothing with His words.
3. He creates order out of chaos.
4. He creates animals in their “kinds”
5. He creates humankind as the pinnacle of His creation.

## Genesis 1:24-27

<sup>26</sup> Then God said, “Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground.”

<sup>27</sup> So God created mankind in his own image,  
in the image of God he created them;  
male and female he created them.

## Genesis 2:4-7

- <sup>4</sup> This is the account of the heavens and the earth when they were created, when the LORD God made the earth and the heavens.
- <sup>5</sup> Now no shrub had yet appeared on the earth and no plant had yet sprung up, for the LORD God had not sent rain on the earth and there was no one to work the ground, <sup>6</sup> but streams came up from the earth and watered the whole surface of the ground.
- <sup>7</sup> Then the LORD God formed a man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being.

1. There is One True God.
2. God created the land and sky (matter) out of nothing with His words.
3. He creates order out of chaos.
4. He creates animals in their “kinds”
5. He creates humankind as the pinnacle of His creation.
6. We are all fallen creatures in Adam

Does Genesis answer how old the Earth is?

The seven days are not given as a period of time over which the material cosmos came into existence, but the period of time devoted to the inauguration of the cosmic temple. It is this inauguration and entrance of the presence of God to take up his rest that creates the temple. If the seven days refer to a cosmic temple inauguration, then Genesis 1 as a whole has nothing to contribute to the discussion of the age of the earth. This is not a conclusion designed to accommodate science – it was drawn from an analysis and interpretation of Genesis in its ancient environment. The point is not that the biblical text therefore supports the view of an old earth, but simply that there is no biblical position on the age of the earth.

~John Walton, *The Lost World of Genesis 1: Ancient Cosmology an the Origins Debate* (InterVarsity Press, 20090), 92,95-96

The seven days of Genesis 1 are representative of a concept, not a measurement of literal temporal units. This is not to say that they are representative of longer or shorter periods of time, as they are not representative of time at all. Instead, they represent the consecration of what is ordered as a temple in an effort to convey a theological concept about God, humans, and the universe in which they reside.

*B.C. Hodge, Revisiting the Days of Genesis: A Study in the Use of Time in Genesis 1-11 in Light of the Ancient Near Eastern and Literary Context [2010], 68.*

Can Science Tell us where life originates?

<b>Criteria of High-Confidence Science</b>	<b>Criteria of Low-Confidence Science</b>
<b>1</b> Repeatable	Not repeatable
<b>2</b> Directly measurable and accurate results	Indirectly measured, extrapolated, or inaccurate results
<b>3</b> Prospective, interventional study	Retrospective, observational study
<b>4</b> Careful to avoid bias	Clear opportunities for bias
<b>5</b> Careful to avoid assumptions	Many assumptions required
<b>6</b> Sober judgment of results	Overstated confidence or scope of results

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## 1. REPEATABLE

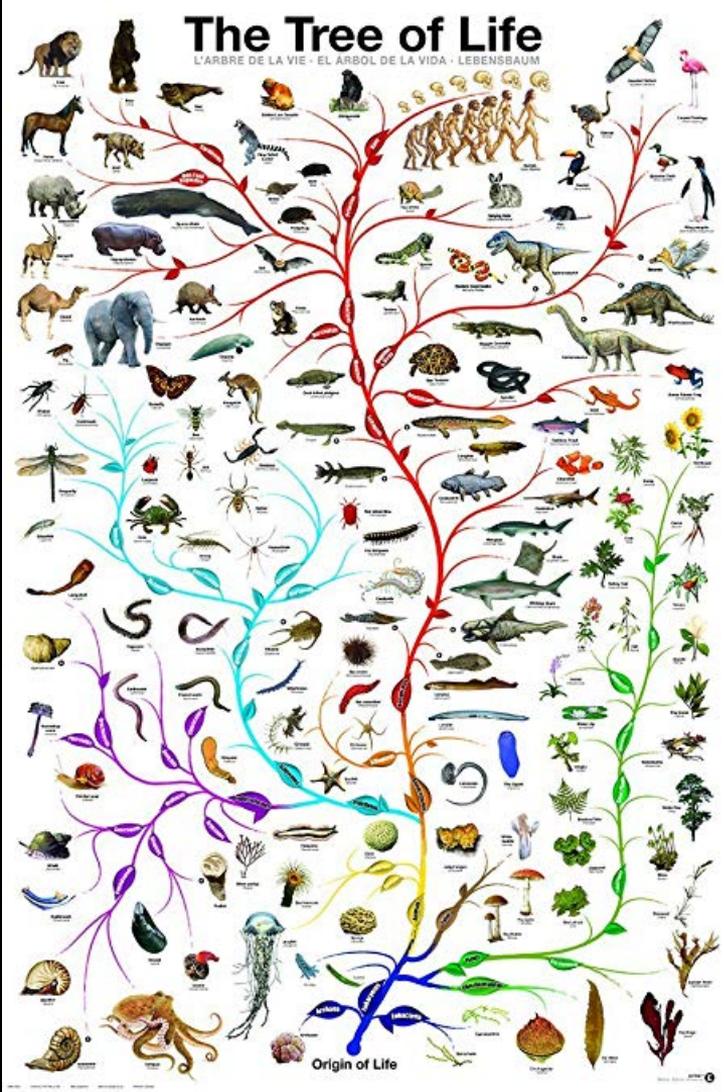
Repeatable results are a hallmark of confident science. In applying

“grand evolution,” which is the theory that all life proceeded from a common ancestor through the slow accumulation of changes as a result of random mutations and natural selection. This grand definition of evolution is what is taught in our classrooms, by law, and is the subject of the surveys mentioned in chapter 1. Grand evolution implies generalized evolution (i.e., major evolutionary changes imply the occurrence of minor evolutionary changes), but generalized evolution does not imply grand evolution (i.e., minor evolutionary changes do not imply major evolutionary changes).

Stadler, Rob. *The Scientific Approach to Evolution: What They Didn't Teach You in Biology* (pp. 40-41). Kindle Edition.

# The Tree of Life

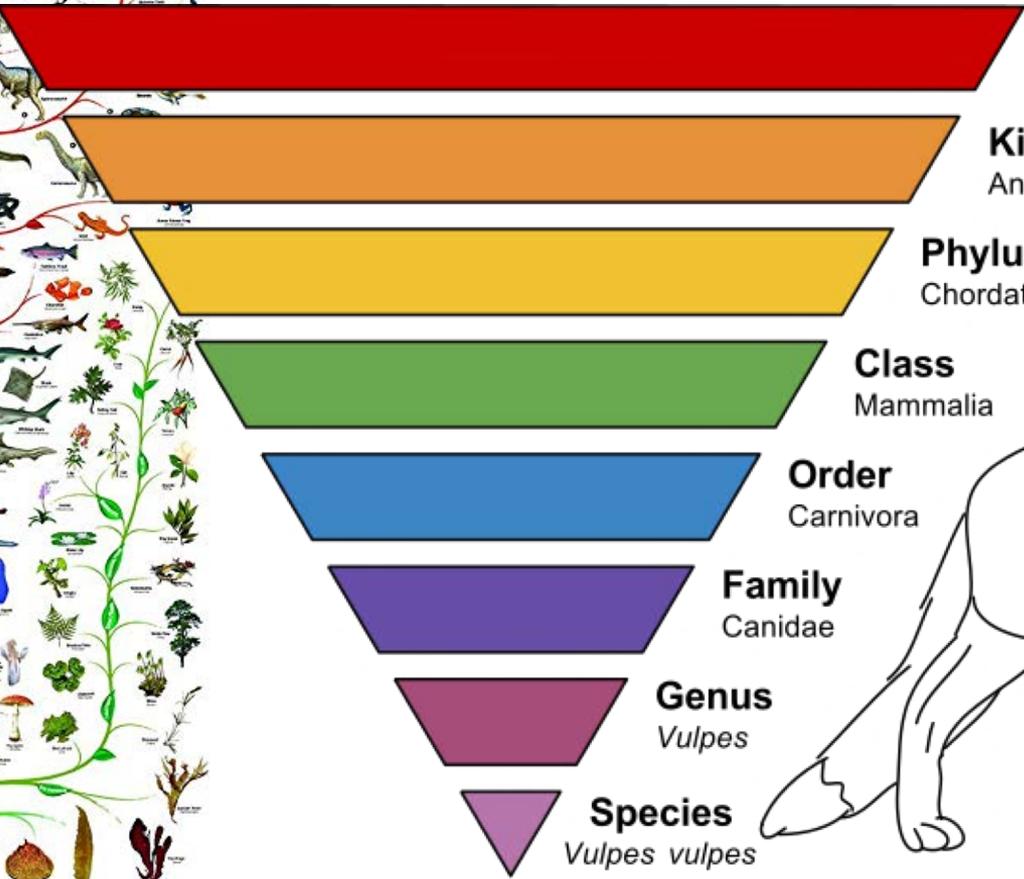
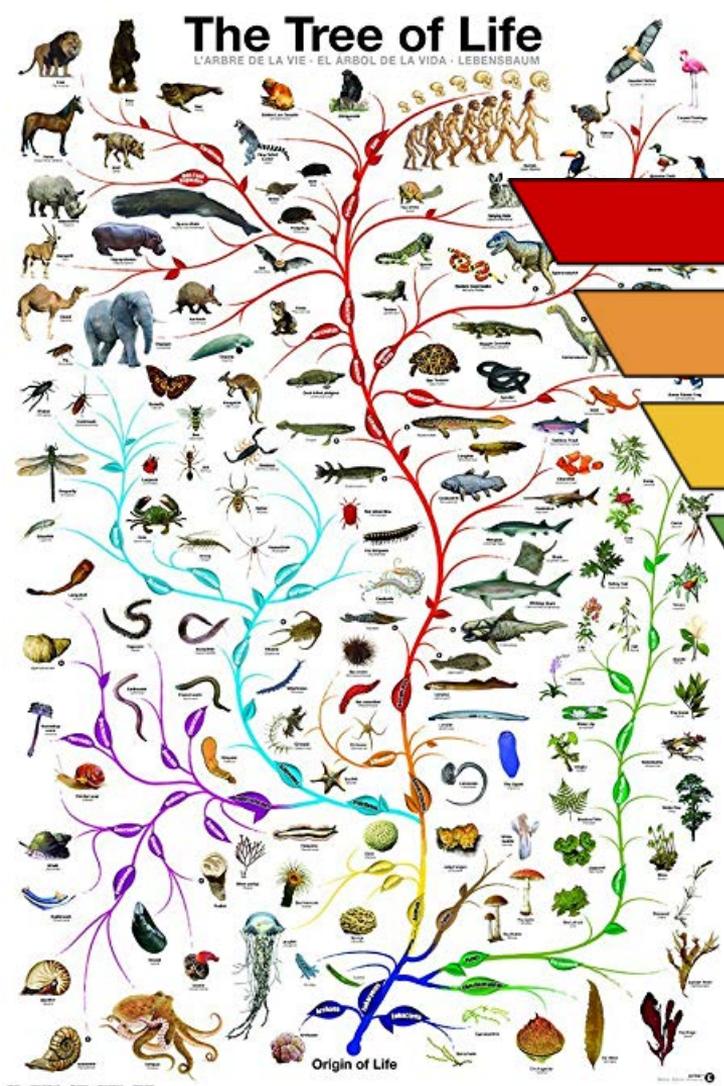
L'ARBRE DE LA VIE · EL ARBOL DE LA VIDA · LEBENSBAUM



Origin of Life

# The Tree of Life

L'ARBRE DE LA VIE - EL ARBOL DE LA VIDA - LEBENSBAUM



**Domain**  
Eukarya

**Kingdom**  
Animalia

**Phylum**  
Chordata

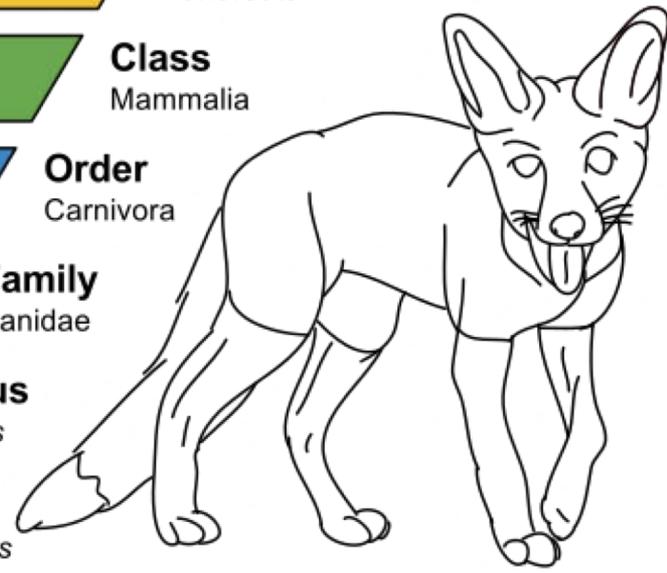
**Class**  
Mammalia

**Order**  
Carnivora

**Family**  
Canidae

**Genus**  
*Vulpes*

**Species**  
*Vulpes vulpes*



Red fox (*Vulpes vulpes*)

# Arguments for a young earth

Arguments for a young earth

**Catastrophism or a World Wide Flood**

# Argument for an Old Earth

Argument for an Old Earth

**Create a world that is inhabitable for life**

So...what can we believe?

## John 1:1-5

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup> He was with God in the beginning.

<sup>3</sup> Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. <sup>4</sup> In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. <sup>5</sup> The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

## 2 Timothy 1:9-11

<sup>9</sup> He has saved us and called us to a holy life — not because of anything we have done but because of his own purpose and grace. This grace was given us in Christ Jesus before the beginning of time, <sup>10</sup> but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior, Christ Jesus, who has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.

## 1 Corinthians 15:44-49

If there is a natural body, there is also a spiritual body. <sup>45</sup> So it is written: “The first man Adam became a living being”; the last Adam, a life-giving spirit. <sup>46</sup> The spiritual did not come first, but the natural, and after that the spiritual. <sup>47</sup> The first man was of the dust of the earth; the second man is of heaven. <sup>48</sup> As was the earthly man, so are those who are of the earth; and as is the heavenly man, so also are those who are of heaven. <sup>49</sup> And just as we have borne the image of the earthly man, so shall we bear the image of the heavenly man.

# Gospel Application:

*We can believe the Bible*

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*We can believe the Bible*

*We can believe in modern science*

# Gospel Application:

*We can believe the Bible*

*We can believe in modern science*

*We can believe in the Second Adam*