

ULC Sermon Study Resource

What's up with Christians not believing science?

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Prayer: Pause for a few moments to go to the Lord in prayer. Ask that he would open your heart and mind to hear His Word and draw near to you.

Reading: Colossians 1:15-23 (ESV)

Outline:

- I. All things were created by and for Christ. (v16)
 - a. The notion of the universe's beginning and "something coming from nothing" is very problematic without God.
 - b. As we study the world scientifically, we are pointed again and again to an eternal, creator God.
- II. In Christ all things hold together. (v17)
 - a. There are over 100 improbable and interdependent conditions that enable human life (anthropic constants).
 - b. Our world reflects the brilliance of our creator.
- III. Christ reconciles all things to himself with the cross (v19-20).
 - a. The existence of God does not mean we can know him or that he loves us. We see these things not simply in God's existence, but in what he did at the cross.
 - b. Jesus went to the cross to reconcile you, forgive you and bring you into relationship with the creator.

Reflection/Discussion Questions:

- 1) Have you heard the myth that the Christian faith and science are at odds with each other in your day-to-day life? Where?
- 2) What is your relationship with science? Was it a subject you hated in school, or loved? Does it challenge or affirm your faith?
- 3) What is your reaction to hearing Jesus described as the *creator* of all things? Does it surprise or challenge the way you think about the Son's role within the Trinity?
- 4) Do you feel "held together" by Christ? What practices do you have to remind yourself of who He is and allow Him to sustain you?
- 5) How might it look for you personally to proclaim our reconciliation in light of the "stigma of naivety in religion" (as Kevin Haughn puts it)?

Suggestions for further reading:

- Genesis 1:1-2:7
- Job 12:7-10
- Psalm 104
- John 1:1-5