In the Beginning was "The Word..."

John 1:1–18 suggests a focus on the creative "Word" as "life" and the "light of men" that shines to dispel the darkness of sin (1:4–5).


See Hebrews 1:2.
Chaos After The Original Creation
Or, The Gap Theory

Order and perfection
Without form and void (Gen. 1:2)
“Very good” (Gen. 1:31)

Original Creation (Gen. 1:1)
World judged resulting in chaos (Gen. 1:2)
World recreated (Gen. 1:3-2:3)

Chaos at the Beginning of Creation
The Initial Chaos Theory
Or, The Once for all Creation view

Without form and void (Gen. 1:2)
“Very Good” (Gen. 1:31)
Textual Evidence

The Hebrew words, “formless and void” have no connotation suggesting anything immoral, evil, rebellious, or chaotic.

The flow of the text leads to the conclusion that the formlessness took on form and that the void was filled by the sixth day.

The Days of Creation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gen 1:2</th>
<th>“formless”</th>
<th>“void”</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Day 1 (1:1[3]-5)</td>
<td>Formed Light</td>
<td>Filled Light Bearers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Day 2 (1:6-8)</td>
<td>Expanse</td>
<td>Sea and Air Animals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Day 3 (1:9-13)</td>
<td>Land</td>
<td>Land Animals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Day 7 (2:1-3)</td>
<td>Vegetation</td>
<td>Man</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>God Rested, Blessing and Sanctifying the Seventh Day</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Textual Evidence

- Meaning of “day” yom (יומ), page 15 in the notes.
- Paragraph petuah (פּוּעָה) [literary unit].
- Disjunctive accent at the beginning of verse 2.
- Conjunctive accents at the beginning of verses 3, 4, 5.
- Colon at end of each verse indicates simply a pause, nothing more.
  - A comma would be appropriate
  - Gen 1:1-5 could be one sentence.
Textual Evidence

- God has existed from eternity past
  - Deut 33:27 *kedem* (קדש)
  - Isaiah 9:6 *olam* (עולם)
- But neither eternity nor a long time is mentioned in Genesis 1.
  God created time in Genesis 1.
- If a “day” is an age, then what is an “evening” or a “morning”?

Day-Age

Historical Evidence
Prior to 1800, virtually all Bible readers understood the days of creation to be literal.
The gap theory and the day-age theory were advanced to make concessions to science.


Comment: it was secular science, not the Bible, which needed a long time so that the earth could evolve.

Day-Age

A literary analysis of Genesis 1 results in a rejection of the gap theory, the day-age theory, and the revelatory days theory. (David Wilkinson, God, Time and Stephen Hawking, 2001).

We must decide whether the Bible is vulnerable to secular theories about origins.
because
The time scales keep changing.
Literal 24 Hour Days

“There can be little doubt that here ‘day’ has its basic sense of a 24-hour period. The mention of morning and evening, the enumeration of the days, and the divine rest on the seventh show that a week of divine activity is being described here.” Such a natural explanation of this text finds ready support in the notice of a division between “the day” and “the night” already in v. 4.”


Conclusion

• Sincere and well-meaning Christians may differ on some details of Creation.
• No one can fully comprehend God’s creative work (bara אָרָא), which is unique to Him.
• As long as our authority rests with the Word (hadavar הַדָבָר) of God, Christians should enjoy and exercise the fellowship that is rightfully ours in Christ.

Evolution
Evolution

Evolution requires an increase in complexity which has never been witnessed in biology, chemistry, or physics.

Two necessary ingredients (if evolution did occur):

• Death
• Time

Evolution Requires Death

• Came with the sin of Adam. 1 Cor 15:21, “For since by a man came death, by a man also came the resurrection of the dead.”

Evolution Requires Time

• Even 14 billion years isn’t enough time for random chemical reactions to have created the complexity found in one living cell.

Real Motivation for Evolution

1. Provides a Story for the Origin of the Universe.
   Evolution provides a storyline for the creation of the universe apart from a Creator. From the beginning of time until Darwin, no other pagan cosmology has had succeeded in deceiving so many people as to origin.

2. Provides Deferred Judgment.
   Evolution provides a long time interval between the commission of sinful deeds and judgment by a holy Creator God.

   Jeremiah 17:10 "I, the LORD, search the heart, I test the mind, Even to give to each man according to his ways, According to the results of his deeds."

   Psalm 50:6 "The heavens declare His righteousness, For God Himself is judge. Selah."

   Isaiah 48:9 "For the sake of My name I delay My wrath, And for My praise I restrain it for you, In order not to cut you off."
**DNA contains the genetic instructions used in the development and functioning of all known living organisms. The main role of DNA molecules is the long-term storage of information needed for reproduction. DNA is often compared to a set of blueprints, since it contains the instructions needed to construct other components of cells such as proteins and RNA molecules. The four bases found in DNA are adenine, cytosine, guanine, and thymine. These four bases are attached to complex sugar/phosphate molecules to form the complete nucleotide.

The helical structure of DNA is comprised of base pairs and DNA from different life forms is made up of different numbers of bases. Humans have about 3 billion base pairs for each copy of our DNA [two total, one from each parent] There are about 6 picograms of DNA/cell. Darwin knew nothing about any of this.

**Accident or Design?**

A Boeing 747 travels at 567 mph, cruises at 35,000 feet, and weighs almost a million pounds at takeoff. It has six million parts, half of which are simple fasteners. Therefore, this bird has 1,000 times fewer parts and is infinitely less complex than one DNA molecule.

It would be as logical to believe this aircraft came into existence as a result of a tornado, than to subscribe to the creation of a DNA molecule through processes involving accident or chance. This calls intellectual honesty into question.

**Evolution**

A leading German researcher and physicist, inventor of one wire transmission of electronic data making telephone calls possible. Held 34 patents, published 50 scientific papers, was awarded 18 honorary degrees including Princeton, Brown, and Columbia Universities.

“The laws of physics are a manifestation of the Creator. We do not know of any natural processes by which eternal things have been evolved.”

“Science is fully compatible with the Word of God. Science leads to God.”
Faith vs. Reason

Faith is not the abandonment of reason, Faith is the proper exercise of reason.

Propositions

Conclusions

Inside the Calculator

Reason
Experience

Revelation

BIBLICAL

SECULAR

Evolution

“Evolution holds that the human mind that has conceived the idea of evolution is merely a phenomenon of homo sapiens’ brain cell activity. If human brain cell activity alone produces ideas like evolution, then how do we know such ideas fit reality? Maybe they’re nothing more than hallucinations. The usual answer by evolutionists is that evolution is true, whether we can explain the mind or not. This ploy raises the issue of what part, if any, of the evolutionary idea is fact?”

Charles Clough
Worship God or Evolution?

Psalm 19:1 “The heavens are telling of the glory of God; And their expanse is declaring the work of His hands.”

Psalm 8:1 “Lord, our Lord, How majestic is Thy name in all the earth, Who hast displayed Thy splendor above the heavens!”

Psalm 57:5 “Be exalted above the heavens, O God; Let Thy glory be above all the earth.”