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CREATION, WHY AND HOW?

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In this article the question: Creation-Why? is examined; and it is concluded, among other things, that the second law of thermodynamics was put into operation as soon as Creation was complete. The question: Creation-How? is also examined, and it is suggested that one of the results of making creation subject to vanity (Romans 8:20) at the fall was radioactivity.

Introduction

This paper will examine and suggest answers to the following questions:

Is "perfect" synonymous with "very good"?

Creation-Why?, i.e., why did God create man? the earth? the universe?

What was the created life-span of the earth and the stars, i.e., how long would they remain in the "very good" condition in which they were created?

Were living creatures created with a body that was subject to death, i.e., mortal, or not subject to death, i.e., immortal? And was man on the same footing as other living creatures in this respect, or no?

When did the Second Law of Thermodynamics take effect?

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Creation—How? Can we know anything about the methods and procedures God used in Creation? When did radioactivity begin?

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Very Good vs. Perfect

"And God saw everything that He had made; and, behold, it was very good!" (Genesis 1:31)

Very good. What does it mean? To me, it means no more and no less than that the finished creation was exactly what God had planned and designed it to be.

Many times the word "perfect" is used to describe the new creation. Does "perfect" say the same thing as does "very good"?

Consider these definitions of the word "perfect" as given by Webster:

1. Being entirely without fault or defect.

2. Satisfying all requirements.

3. Corresponding to an ideal standard.

4. Lacking in no essential detail.

5. Perfect implies the soundness and the excellence of every part, element, or quality of a thing frequently as an unattainable or theoretical state.

When one uses the word "perfect" to describe the new creation, which of these definitions does he mean? All these definitions imply that the one who describes something as being "perfect" knows exactly what is the ideal standard, what is essential and what are the requirements. Unless these things are described, the listener is left to form his own ideas about them. If we say, however, that the new creation was perfect for the purpose for which it was created, the listener will be directed back to the definition of "very good" and be forced to ask the question, what was God's purpose, plan, and design in creation?

Creation-Why?

The design of the material universe was determined by the plans and purpose the Creator had for it. What was God's purpose and plan in creation?

Consider these verses:

"We announce to you what we have seen and what we have heard, that you also may have fellowship with us. And truly our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son, Jesus Christ." (I John 1:3)

"And if I go and prepare a place for you, I am coming again and will receive you to Myself, that where I am you may be also." (John 14:3)

"But according as it has been written, "Eye has not seen and ear has not heard," nor has it entered into the heart of man, "the things which God has prepared for those that love Him." (I Corinthians 2:9)

Two words in these verses reveal, to me, God's purpose in creating man: fellowship and love. Now, we all know that these two items cannot be commanded, forced, or bought. Rather, true fellowship and true love are gifts from those who freely choose to give them.

God, I believe we can say, created man because He desired someone in His presence who loved Him, and would fellowship with Him. God, however, cannot obtain true love and fellowship by command, force, or price, any more than we can. As only those who love God will enter the fullness of His presence and partake of the things He has prepared, it was necessary for Him to place man in a temporary location until the man made his choice whether or not to love God. Consequently, the earth was created to provide this temporary location.

The original earth had to be designed with three factors in mind; first, it was to be temporary; second, it had to be constructed so as to retain the "very good" condition in which it was created until it had served its original purpose should man choose to love God; and third, if man chose not to love God, and God chose to change the "very good" condition of the earth, it had to be constructed so as to allow Him to do so while man was still living on it.

We have seen that God created man to fellowship with Him, and He created the earth to serve man. Why did He create the vast multitude of heavenly bodies?

It is not likely that we can know all of God's purposes for the stars but we do know that they are for "signs and for seasons and for days and years." (Genesis 1:14) They also exist to "declare the glory of God and show His handiwork." (Psalm 19:1)

The Universe's Life-Span

We have seen that the purpose of the originally created material universe was to provide a temporary home for man. What lifespan did God give it?

The present, generally accepted theory of how the sun and stars produce their energy is by nuclear fusion. If that is correct, the life-span of the sun and stars would be measured in the billions of years.¹

There is evidence, however, that the energy of the sun and stars is produced by contraction. If that is correct, the life span of the sun and stars would be measured in the millions of years.²

Either way, the sun and stars, which started using up their energy the moment after they were created, would eventually use up all their energy and then would cease giving out light.

The earth, also, had been given a limited amount of time in which it could remain in its original "very good" state. This is indicated in Genesis 2:10, "And a river went out of Eden to water the garden."

As there was no rain in those days (Genesis 2:5) the river had to be supplied by a pressurized subterranean water reservoir. There was no natural way the surface water could re-enter the pressurized reservoir and therefore the time would come when it would be empty. With no more water to water the earth, vegetation and land creatures would die.

The present amount of surface water on the earth is approximately 350 million cubic miles. If 300 million cubic miles of that were originally in the subterranean water reservoir, and the original land area was one-half the earth's surface, i.e., 100 million square miles, and the rivers poured forth enough water to cover that land area to a depth of 12 inches a year, it would take just under 16 thousand years to empty the reservoir.

The human race itself had only a limited time in

which to enjoy the "very good" condition of their surroundings. God commanded the first human couple to "be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth." (Genesis 1:28) The question that comes to mind is, "What would happen when the earth was full?" If things continued as they had, overpopulation would occur resulting in a deterioration of the environment. This would have made it impossible for the earth to still be called "very good".

God, however, had only commanded mankind to "fill the earth". I believe that when all the people that God wanted in His presence for eternal fellowship had been born, He then would have taken them to be with Him. He would have given them bodies that could live in His glorious Light, and would have remade the universe into a permanent, eternal state.

What the population growth rate would have been if man had not sinned, is, of course, unknown. As there would have been no human deaths, a doubling of the population every 10 years would have been easily achieved, reaching a population of 8 billion in 320 years. There was no need, however, for haste, so perhaps it would have taken up to two thousand years to "fill the earth". The point is, that God's purpose for the original earth would have been fulfilled long before the sun quit giving light and before the rivers of the earth stopped flowing.

Living Creatures

Did God create living creatures with bodies that were subject to death, i.e., mortal, or with bodies that were not subject to death, i.e., immortal?

God created food for the creatures to eat, air for them to breath, and periods of darkness for sleep. Were these things necessary to maintain life? Would the creatures have died if any or all of them were withheld? If so, then they had mortal bodies. If, however, they had immortal bodies, what was the purpose of food, air, and sleep?

An indication that animals would have died, i.e., were mortal, is in God's command to Adam and Eve to "be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth". (Genesis 1:28) God also gave the command to "subdue" the earth. (Genesis 1:28) Two people alone could not fulfill the demands of that command. Therefore I believe that God filled the earth, at creation, with animals which would keep the earth "subdued". Each animal had its own food preference and its own size of appetite. By eating, they all together would "dress" and thus subdue the earth as Adam was to "dress" and thus subdue the garden. Some animals would always be around to assist man in the job of subduing the earth, but as the human population grew, the animal population would decline. If it didn't, man could not have fulfilled his command to fill the earth. For the animal population to decline, it was necessary for animals to die.

That man too had a body subject to death is indicated by the existence of the Tree of Life. When man did sin God said,

"Behold, the man has become as one of us, to know good and evil. And now, lest he put forth his hand and take also from the tree of life, and eat and live forever—therefore Jehovah God sent him out of the garden of Eden. . . and he placed the cherubim . . . and . . . sword . . . to guard the way of the tree of life." (Genesis 3:22, 23)

In God's own words we are told that the fruit of the Tree of Life had the power to prolong human life. If it had that power after man sinned, it must have had that power before man sinned, and would have kept man alive until the earth was full. Because man sinned God prevented him from eating the fruit of the Tree of Life, and therefore he died when his created life span was reached.

Another indication, to me, that death of living creatures was part of God's original plan, is in the commands He gave to the creatures of the sea. God said, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the waters in the seas." (Genesis 1:22)

To prevent overpopulation, sea creatures would have to be continually dying to make room for the new ones.

The Second Law

From all the foregoing, I conclude that the Second Law of Thermodynamics was part of God's original design for the universe and was in operation from Creation on.

The Second Law is a statement of the fact that all of man's observations show that the universe is decreasing in complexity and in availability of energy.

It has been noted that conditions in the original universe met both of the requirements of the above statement. Man's and animals' energy was continually running down and therefore it was necessary for them to eat. Vegetation continually needed sunlight to continue functioning and the sun was using up its energy in producing light. The rivers of the earth also had a limited life. These things all demonstrate that from the beginning there was a continual decrease in the availability of energy.

Adam's job was to dress the garden. Man and animals were constantly giving off body wastes. Animals were continually dying. What happened to the vegetation trimmings, the body wastes, and the dead bodies? If they had not decayed, things would have become rather messy.

Decay is the process of complex molecules breaking down into simpler ones. Decay must have been taking place and thus there was a continual decrease in complexity.

It appears that the Second Law is just the orderly way to operate a temporary universe.

Creation — How?

When man sinned God made a tremendous change in the whole creation.

"For the creation has been made subject to vanity (not of its own will but because of Him who made it subject)." (Romans 8:20)

In what way was every atom made subject to vanity? Before I suggest an answer to that question, let us look at what has been revealed to us about the process of creation.

1. Matter was not made from pre-existing matter.

"Through faith we understand that the worlds were

framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear." (Hebrews 11:3)

2. Creation was instantaneous.

"For He spoke, and it was done: He commanded, and it stood fast." (Psalm 33:9)

"And God said, let there be light: and there was light." (Genesis 1:2)

3. The Voice of God and the Hands of God were both instruments of creation.

"For He spoke"...."He commanded".... (Psalm 33:9)

"And God said . . . (Genesis 1:2)

"The heavens declare the glory of God and the expanse shows His handiwork." (Psalm 19:1)

"When I contemplate Your heavens, the work of Your fingers," (Psalm 8:3)

"You made him rule over the works of Your hands," (Psalm 8:6)

The voice was the voice of God the Father and the Hands were the hands of God the Son who is also called the Word.

"In many places and in many ways God has spoken in times past to the fathers in the prophets—in these last days He has spoken to us in the Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things—by whom also He made the worlds." (Hebrews 1:1, 2)

"In the beginning was the Word, and Word was with God, and Word was God All things came into being through Him. And without Him not even one thing was made that has come into being." (John 1:1, 3)

4. The famous formula $E = mc^2$ informs us that matter is made of energy. The only energy there is, is God's energy. All matter, therefore, is made from God's energy.

energy. "For the invisible things of Him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power (i.e., energy) and Godhead; so that they are without excuse." (Romans 1:20)

The order of creation, then, must have been this: when God the Father spoke, God the Word took some of the Godhead's eternal power, i.e., energy, in His hands and squeezed it into atoms, using them to form whatever it was that God the Father had called for.

Atoms

"One of the unsolved problems in physics is the nuclear force, the force that holds the nucleus together." 3

Physicists have pondered on this problem for a long time and now have proposed a couple of different solutions for it. Barnes has put forth a new model of the proton which,

"consists of a spinning sphere of extremely small radius and extremely high perimeter speed, speed exceeding the speed of light . . . The result is a large magnetic flux and an intense magnetic field. This field provides binding force attraction between protons."³ Other physicists are thinking along different lines.

"The gluon is conjectured to bind together the particles called quarks, thereby forming protons, neutrons, pions and all the other entities that are classified as hadrons, or strongly interacting particles. The adhesive strength of the gluon is thought to be so great that a quark cannot be extracted from a hadron no matter what force is brought to bear on it . . . In some respects the gluon is similar to the photon . . . both can be regarded as the agents of fundamental forces in nature."⁴

God the Son, who squeezed eternal energy into mass, is the "fundamental forces in nature", and it may be that spinning protons or gluons are His "agents". However, no matter how the atom is held together, He is the ultimate cause.

"By Him all things consist," (i.e., hold together) (Colossians 1:17)

Radioactivity

Earlier the question was asked, "In what way was every atom made subject to vanity?" Now, I suggest the following answer.

When God the Son squeezed energy into atoms, he squeezed and held the atom so tightly that there were no unstable elements and therefore no radioactivity. At the Fall, He relaxed His grip slightly—or slightly reduced the speed of the spinning protons—or took away some adhesive strength from the gluon, which affected every atom and allowed some to become unstable, i.e., radioactive.

The Pleochroic Halo, I believe, is evidence for the merit of the above suggestion.

"...."pleochroic halos" are best described as spheres of concentric discolorations of the rock surrounding a small particle inclusion Examination of the halos has led to an explanation involving radioactive decay. Alpha particles from radioactive elements in the inclusion have discolored the rock and formed the halo The startling halos are daughter elements in a series in which the parent elements are completely absent. This carries the first implication that the daughters were produced in the primary generation (creation) of the rocks, rather than by a process of radioactive decay These halos are typically polonium 218 signatures The very startling thing is that the half-life of polonium 218 is 3 minutes In twenty half-lives the concentration would be down by a factor over one million, which for polonium 218 is one hour."5

If some elements became radioactive as soon as they were created, and a few elements decayed within an hour of their having been made, could God have pronounced everything, "very good"? It seems reasonable to me, that radioactive decay was one of the results produced at the Fall, when God made every atom "subject to vanity".

A New Model

In view of the foregoing, I suggest a model for the newly created earth.

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