

On August 2, 1964 the U.S. destroyer Maddox sent three warning shots towards an approaching enemy submarine, to which the sub retaliated with one return fire striking the Maddox. Two days later, the Maddox claimed that they were attacked in the Gulf of Tonkin. This attack gave rise to the Vietnam War, resulting in the death of over one million people, many of which were civilians. Tragically, some claim that the Maddox attack at the Gulf of Tonkin was based on false information, stating that there was no attack. Wouldn't it be tragic that wrong information led to the demise of so many innocent people?

It's a tragedy when false information lead to war and yet sadly false information has led to a war against God's word. There is a "ghost" war taking place today that claims science and the Bible are at odds. Many claim that science contradicts the Bible. While on one level this is true, on a much broader level it is not. The fact is science contradicts science. This is a fact that cannot be denied. One week you'll read that "scientists say a glass of wine a day is good for you," then another week you'll read that "scientists say a glass of wine a day is harmful to your health." Science constantly contradicts itself, based on what scientist is talking and what scientific study a person is sighting. That's why it disturbs me that so many people put so much blind faith in science.

Many people quote the so-called great scientists as if they were infallible, unable to make a mistake and but the greatest scientific minds have often been far from correct. Some of the theories I heard growing up were that blood was blue inside your body before it came into contact with the outside air, gum takes seven years to digest if you swallow it, humans have only five senses and only use ten percent of their brains.

While we are on the subject, science also used to teach spontaneous generation which says living organisms can come from nonliving

matter. Phrenology was the belief that each character trait was confined to specific areas in the brain. Science also once endorsed the expanding earth theory, the luminiferous aether theory, the slowing universe theory and Einstein's static universe theory.

The great irony is that people continue to cling to scientific theories which are constantly changing and refuse to believe the scientific facts of the Bible, which have been constant and accurate for thousands of years. While the Bible has proven a safe scientific guide, many continue to judge the Bible by the scientific standards of the day instead of judging science by the Bible. They put science above the Bible, when the Bible has proven a trustworthy guide and science has repeatedly proven a shifting sand of inconsistency.

While many mock the Bible, it has a great deal of scientific credibility. People have always mocked the Bible. Those who once held the theory that the earth is flat defied the Biblical assertions that referred to "the circle of the earth" thousands of years ago (Isa. 40:22). Long before science was able to realize the vast number of stars in the sky, the Bible affirmed that the stars "of heaven cannot be numbered" (Jer. 33:22). While scientists thought that the wind was weightless, the oldest book of the Bible said God would "establish a weight for the wind" (Job 28:25).

In the twentieth century scientists believed the floor of the ocean was flat, but the Bible said there were "mountains" on the ocean floor (Jon. 2:6). Long before science discovered its importance, the Bible said that one should bath "in running water" (Lev. 15:13). While doctors were "bleeding" patients, the Bible cautioned that "the life of the flesh is in the blood" (Lev. 17:11). Again, long before science understood it, the Bible affirmed that "light" moved (Job 38:19, 20).

Amazingly, the Bible even explained the rain cycle long before the science was out on it

stating, "He draws up drops of water, which distill as rain from the mist, while the clouds drop down," then when "the clouds are full of rain, they empty themselves upon the earth" (Job 36:27, 28; Eccl. 11:3). Along with this, the Bible explained entropy long before the second law of thermodynamics was discovered. While the evolutionary cycle seemed to affirm that things were progressing to a higher state, the Bible said that the earth will not get better, but will continue to "grow old like a garment" (Ps. 102:25, 26).

This so-called war between science and the Bible is based on false information. True science is not at odds with the Bible. It affirms the Bible and a belief in God. Perhaps the clearest evidence of this is found in two of the greatest scientific discoveries of all time. In 1965 Penzias and Wilson discovered light rays in space. In 1929, science discovered that the universe was expanding. While some affirmed that these were evidence of the big bang, these discoveries perfectly matched the description of how the Bible reveals that life began.

When science found light particles in space and the expanding universe, they concluded that the universe began with a burst of light energy which began to expand outward. This is exactly what the Bible has always taught, stating that the universe began when God spoke the words, "Let there be light," then He "stretched out the heavens" (Gen. 1:3; Jer. 10:12). While some scientists felt that this was the evidence they needed to disprove God, astrophysicist Robert Jastrow stated, "Astronomers now find they have painted themselves into a corner because they have proven, by their own methods, that the world began abruptly in an act of creation to which you can trace the seeds of every star, every planet, every living thing in this cosmos and on the earth" ("A Scientist Caught Between Two Faiths: Interview with Robert Jastrow," *Christianity Today*, August 6, 1982, pp. 15).

You see, while science has been ever changing, the Bible has remained constant and true. The Bible has proven to be a safe and trustworthy guide and yet many continue to cling to the ever shifting theories of science which today seem true, but in one hundred years will be laughed at. Could it be that the things that science today affirms as infallible proofs will later be laughed at by future generations? And while people laugh at the Bible, it will consistently be proven true, because it has come from the mouth of God.

The fact is true science always affirms the Bible. While it is true that some theories at times contradict the Bible, the problem is that when the two contradict each other many people tend to believe science, judging the Bible by science instead of judging science by the Bible. It is funny how many judge the Bible and science with different standards. Those who would not believe a pastor on the basis of their authority would blindly believe a scientist simply on the basis of their authority. How often do we hear, “scientists say,” as if this was the final word on the subject?

While science has proven inconsistent and inaccurate, the Bible has proven to be consistent and extremely accurate. This is why the Bible warns against the “contradictions of what is falsely called knowledge” (1 Tim. 6:20). While some claim to know everything God asks, “Where were you when I laid the foundations of the earth? Tell Me, if you have understanding.” “Have you comprehended the breadth of the earth? Tell Me, if you know all this” (Job 38:4, 18). The reason the Bible is a safe scientific authority is because it was given by the One who created science. While some scientists and scientific theories may contradict the Bible, the idea that true science contradicts the Bible is a lie.

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